The Independent.

"But as we were allowed of God to be put in Trust with the Gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing Men but God, which trieth our Hearts."

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The Independent.

SPINNING.

Like a blind spinner in the sun,
I tread my days;
I know that all the threads will run
At pointed ways;
I know each day will mark its task;
And, being blind, no more I ask.

I do not know the use or name
Of that I spin;
I only know that some one came,
And laid within
My hand the thread, and said: "Since you
Are blind, but one thing you can do."

Sometimes the threads so rough and fast
And tangled fly,
I know wild storms are sweeping past,
And fear that I
Shall fail; but dare not try to find
A safer place, since I am blind.

I know not why, but I am sure
That tint and place
In some great fabric to endure
Past time and race
My threads will have; so from the first,
Though blind, I never felt accursed.

I think perhaps this trust has sprung
From one short word
Said over me when I was young,
So young, I heard
It knowing not that God's name signed
My brow, and sealed me his, though blind.

But whether this be seal or sign
Within, without,
It matters not. The bond divine
I never doubt.
I know He set me here, and still,
And glad, and blind I wait His will;

But listen, listen, day by day,
To hear their tread
Who bear the finished web away,
And cut the thread,
And bring God's message, in the sun:
"Thou poor blind spinner, work is done."

H. H.

SUPERDENOMINATIONALISM.

BY REV. E. O. HAVEN, D.D.

NOT hyperdenominationalism, an excess of an evil, nor *nondenominationalism*, an empty negation; but superdenominationalism is rapidly growing in power as a conviction and feeling, and must sooner or later show itself in organized efforts to accomplish some desirable ends. There are several classes of men, earnestly devoted to the propagation of Christianity, who are hampered and fretted by the denominational harness. The technical terms of the sects are too narrow and stiff to express their thoughts and sympathies, and the inherited feuds that have outlived the misunderstandings that gave them birth offend both their reason and conscience. They long to find some plane above the arena of sectional strife, or even division, where they may not merely exchange compliments, but heartily unite in the common object of their lives.

Some of these men have reached their liberalism through the nature of their occupation. Among these are the presidents and professors of colleges, and those who are employed as teachers in our state-supported schools. From the very nature of the case, denominational lines must almost entirely fade out of their notice. An assemblage of teachers will usually manifest as much Christian principle and spirit as an ecclesiastical assembly; but they overlook artificial distinctions. What they do, perhaps, at first from compulsion, they soon do from choice.

The power of "the American system of education" originated here; but, promising to become universal, religious, and yet not sectarian, but above sects, it must grow and produce large results.

It must rapidly modify the opinions and actions of the churches. In its tendency toward the co-operation of all good men it unites with the power of the secular and the independent press. It is not strange, therefore, that those sects which are the most narrow and self-asserting instinctively feel this, and set themselves in opposition to this new Christian agency. It is really not a "godless education" that they fear; but a Christian education not communicated through the forms and channels over which they preside.

Other classes of men who share in these new convictions are the agents of nondenominational societies, returned missionaries from heathen lands, and all who devote themselves to humanitarian enterprises. It is about as satisfactory proof of Christian character as man can give to his fellowmen to be earnestly and habitually devoted to doing good. One must revolutionize the idea of Christ given in the Gospels to suppose that the Judge can place on his left hand any who visit the sick, clothe the naked, or improve the condition of the suffering. But where are the philanthropists, whatever their education and accidental local associations, who do not rise above and despise the prejudices that separate Christians from each other, and who do not feel hampered by the restrictions of sect?

But, aside from the influence of occupation, some men are constitutionally both positive and liberal. These elements are united in God and godlike men. Some men prefer character to profession; creeds embodied in life to creeds disemboweled and embalmed in words; and, like their Master, "look not on the outward appearance, but on the heart."

Here we see one of "the signs of the times." It is folly not to observe it. There is opening up before this generation a new and peculiar work. History does not repeat itself. There are similarities, but never identities. Different nations or races may pass through analogous stages of development; but the church, as a whole, will never be called twice to conquer the same foes. It is idle to fear in America, and in the nineteenth century, the superstition and ecclesiastical tyranny of Europe in the middle ages, or the spasmodic atheism of the French Revolution. We are to look forward, not backward, for wisdom. The people now are inhaling the spirit of freedom without the poison of hatred, but not without the narcotic poison of indifference. The next battle will be between false liberalism and true—a liberalism which is negative and cold, and allies itself with immorality and private and public corruption; and a true liberalism, which will manfully recognize and claim affinity with good wherever found, and extend the hand of a brother to every one whose heart is right.

A leading institution of learning, partly sustained by the state and partly by private benefactions, has incorporated into its organic law the regulation that neither any one religious denomination nor non-religionists shall have a majority of the board of trustees—thus recognizing the two facts that religion is essential and that the narrowness of confinement to any one sect would defeat its grand ideal. We would not advocate the abolition of denominations. They have their use. But we look with favor upon whatever tends to unite Christians of every name together, and to weaken that prejudice which would either help or harm a man on account of his sectarian name.

This is undoubtedly the spirit of the age—an atmosphere which, like a universal solvent, is melting down old prejudices and preparing the way for new and mightier combinations, that shall grow out of affinities of life and heart. This tendency must be rightly directed. Spirit must be preferred to letter, a positive to a negative freedom, a liberalism that opposes nothing good to a liberalism that opposes nothing evil.

MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY.

TWO TOPICS OF THE DAY.

REVERDY JOHNSON AND THE RITUALISTS.

BY REV. NEWMAN HALL, D.D.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE INDEPENDENT:

A RECENT number of *Punch* has a very clever and graceful cartoon. A good and respectful representation of the American Minister is holding up, with benevolent and smiling face, a bunch of mistletoe, beneath which a bluff old English country gentleman is kissing a neat, jolly, fashionable, somewhat go-ahead, but generous-hearted girl, whose dress is ornamented with stars and stripes. John Bull, often in error, but always bearing beneath a somewhat rough exterior a true, honest heart, is not loth to salute the youthful, earnest, beautiful, and honest lips of a daughter of whom any father might be proud. I was delighted to see this in *Punch*. Many a rude joke at America, many an ignorant and mischief-making sarcasm has appeared in those pages; and it was to me a cause of gratitude that even *Punch* had come round to the cause of truth and common-sense, and justice and peace. We are all highly pleased with your minister. I know many Americans are not. I also know your candor, and that you will let me freely utter my opinion, though it may be opposed to those of some readers of THE INDEPENDENT. Mr. Johnson's manner pleases us by its openness, its jollity, its unofficial character. He takes the nation into his confidence. He is not satisfied with conferences behind closed doors with two or three diplomatists. He knows that pending questions concern two great peoples; and he seeks to win the heart of the English nation, as a great help toward securing the English Government. Mr. Johnson is admitted on all hands to have done more by his sociality and hearty utterances on many occasions to bring about a healthy tone of feeling than could have been effected by any amount of dispatches, done up in any quantity of red-tape of the most orthodox color. He has conciliated the very classes who needed conciliation most. He has won over those who were most Southern in their sympathies. He has dined with them! That's a great power with some people! He has drunk wine with some, and tea with others. He has gone everywhere, with an open hand, recognizing no parties over here, forgetting old grievances, and just saving and shewing on behalf of America: "We are your very good cousins, and you are ours. Why this shyness? Let's shake hands first, and at once; then settle accounts; and then shake hands more heartily still. Or, if you please, let's give and take the kiss of peace." Some think he has gone too far—that he should have made exceptions. But, if an ambassador is received as a representative of his entire nation, so should not he come to the entire nation? As we forget his personal creed in the nation he represents, should not he overlook personal differences and peculiarities, and see only the nation in those he visits? He is condemned by some for meeting Laird. In common with many others, I would not have fellowship with the fitter-out of pirates to support a slaveholders' rebellion, he being of the same nation, and by that act being in fact disloyal to his own country, in evading her laws and trying to embroil her in a war on the wrong side. But it seems to me that with your ambassador, coming over to make peace, the case is very different. I witnessed in Washington how cordially some of your authorites welcomed men who had been eminent in rebellion. We hear that your President-elect takes the hand of rebel generals. If then your chosen Chief Magistrate is friendly with those who led an armed rebellion against their own government, much more may your representative take the hand of those who, however bad their conduct, violated no fidelity to America, owing it no allegiance. But, if Mr. Johnson has erred, it has been on the right side. His motive has been fully appreciated. Not only those who sided with the South praise him; but, with a very few exceptions, those who were the strongest friends of the Union and freedom throughout the war. The other day Mr. Johnson honored my wife and myself with his company at our humble abode, to which we had invited about 60 leading friends of America during her struggle. We had with us the chamberlain of the city of London, Mr. B. Scott, who during the whole war rested not in diffusing true sentiments throughout the country; and Dr. Raleigh, president of the Congregational Union; Dr. Rigg, president of the Wesleyian College, Westminster; Dr. M'All, president of Hackney College; Dr. Waddington; the editors of the *Morning Star;* and others, who had been zealous advocates of the North throughout. A number of city merchants were with us, and some members of Parliament, including Mr. Sam. Morley, and Mr. M'Arthur, late sheriff of London. One after the other, from different points of view, expressed high approval of Mr. Johnson's conduct in particular and cordial good-will for America in general.

Mr. Johnson replied in an address which won all hearts and drew tears from some eyes. About a week after we got up a workingmen's demonstration at the Lambeth Baths, in the south of London, near Surrey Chapel. There had been some blundering on the part of a self-appointed representation of workingmen, who had invited Mr. Johnson to a dinner. Fancy a *dinner* at 7 in the evening for workingmen, who always dine at half-past 12! And fancy them paying many shillings a head! Of course, it fell through; and some endeavor was made to attribute this to the displeasure of the working classes at Mr. Johnson's conduct. So it was determined to atone for what looked like an insult to America in the person of her ambassador. My friend, Mr. Murphy, lately evangelist of Surrey Chapel, now pastor of an independent church, composed of workingmen, was the chief promoter of the demonstration. It was held on Saturday evening. The doors were open to all. No charge was made—no tickets were needed. Before the hour the hall was crowded with nearly 3,000 workingmen. Mr. Johnson, attended by my excellent friend, America's indefatigable secretary of legation, Mr. Moran, was true to time. The members of the borough came, and a few neighboring clergy. Otherwise it was a genuine mass-meeting of London artisans. The honor of chairmanship was accorded to me. Having so often addressed the same people, in that place and in Surrey Chapel, on American affairs, I felt I was one of them. My words were few. My friend Murphy followed. Then four artisans spoke. Their speeches were short, pithy, hearty, full of love to their comrades beyond the ocean, and of respect for your minister and his career. Then the memorial was read. Then Mr. Johnson gave an address. I may call it an oration never to be forgotten by those who heard it. He here threw off all reserve. He spoke as a republican to the people. He reminded us that here, as well as with you, the voice of the nation ultimately decided the action of government. He traced this in our own history. And then he urged the duty of the people to educate themselves up to this high function and influence. He showed how our two nations are united; how foolish and wicked war would be; how it was the interest and desire of both peoples to live in love together. He spoke of the well-known sympathy of our working classes with the cause of right during America's great struggle, and how well this was known and appreciated. His address was remarkable for its vigor, pleasantry, wisdom, and manliness. There was not one word to lessen the dignity or diminish the claims of his own country; yet every word tended to increase the affection and sympathies of his audience toward her. You should have seen that packed assembly of thousands of workingmen, as they stood up, waved their hats, and gave three hearty, ringing cheers for R. Johnson and America! He is hailed everywhere as a messenger of peace. I trust nothing may occur to frustrate his mission.

To turn to another topic—the recent decision of the Privy Council on Ritualism. You know they have decreed that it is unlawful to burn candles, except for giving necessary light; unlawful to use incense; unlawful to kneel during the "consecration prayer." So much the worse for the Ritualists. But they also decided that the officiating minister ought to stand in front of the table, and therefore with his back to the people; and that the special dresses objected to ought to be worn. So much the worse for the Evangelicals. There have been meetings of the Ritualists, and protests. They say they will submit to the law, while denouncing it. While obeying it in the letter, they will evade it in every way. If they may not kneel during the prayer of consecration, they may bend very low—so that the effect will be the same. The ceremonies condemned are important to them as emblems of the doctrine of the Real Presence. This doctrine they will therefore the more insist on. They will preach it openly and earnestly. They will call on the people to manifest their belief in it by prostrations. Says one, "Let no one sit in the presence of his God; let the only attitudes be kneeling and standing"—*i. e.*, at the communion or mass. Some of them demand the separation of the church from the state as essential to her purity and freedom. They speak as strongly as any "Dissenter" ever spoke of the "adulterous connexion," etc., etc. Meanwhile the Evangelicals are "astonished." Some devoutly thank the Almighty that two or three old legal gentlemen have determined that candles may not be lit in the day-time. Others hesitate to thank God for a judgment which may compel them to assume the hateful scarlet of Rome. Some counsel submission to whatever may be decreed by the law-officers! So Canon Miller. Others contend that the usage of the last century is to be followed, and not a disused rubric. But, as "they that use the sword perish by the sword," so it is likely to be with those that use the law against the Ritualists. It is a sword with two edges. Yet all the while the Bible is before them, and the Spirit to help them to read it, and freedom to act upon it, if—! Yes, if they will forego the status and emoluments which the Establishment secures. Of this both may be certain, that while it is a state church the state will be number one and the church number two. A free state church is an anomaly which will never be allowed. The Broad Church party look on with complacency, and say: "The glory of a state church is that it can embrace both of you. Neither must secede. You are both right in some things. Both furnish an important element in the religious life of the nation. Union in the same state church keeps both of you within some bounds of moderation, combines both in some sort of unity. The greater the varieties of creed and practice the better. The more loose the interpretation of articles, and canons, and rubrics the better; so that all and sundry may here find a common home."

Meanwhile the free churches are resting from controversy either with each other or with the state church, which has so many censors of different parties within itself as to need no stranger to point out its defects. More and more it is being felt that the true Church of Christ is composed of all who love him; and that the kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. How much easier it is to be controversial than spiritual; to be zealous for ceremonies than for Christ; to be resolute in conformity to rubrics than to righteousness; to resist ecclesiastical errors than to overcome the world, the flesh, and the Devil. The world, meanwhile, is eager—eager for money, eager for pleasure, and wickedness abounds, while much of the attention and zeal of the church is diverted from its real and united work by wretched wranglings about copes and candles. How easy to dress one's self up in all the finery of Rome's wardrobe; how difficult to put on and keep on the robe of righteousness! How easy to tear those embroidered dresses to shreds; how difficult to destroy our pride, and self-indulgence, and worldliness! There are errors worse than Ritualism. There are virtues better than Protestantism. We are only safe in our zeal against Ritualism when we are still more zealous for righteousness, and when our piety exceeds our Protestantism.

LONDON, Jan. 19th, 1869.

THEN AND NOW, OR MISSOURI IN 1861 AND 1869.

BY PRES. TUTTLE, OF WABASH COLLEGE.

As the readers of THE INDEPENDENT may remember, I have occasionally furnished some reminiscences of the war. Not long since a friend in Western Missouri gave me some facts of such a nature as to warrant their being recorded as a part of the history of the period, and a point of contrast between the past and the present. It is worth while to premise that my informant did not vote for Mr. Lincoln in 1860. He was an earnest conservative Democrat, who had been educated thoroughly both at one of our colleges and also in the Naval School at Annapolis. With thousands of conscientious men at that time, he believed there would be no war between the North and the South; and, furthermore, that the ill-feeling was largely to be attributed to Northern fanaticism. He regretted the election of Mr. Lincoln; but still believed that the good sense and patriotism of both parties would restrain the foolish fanaticism of Garrisonism on the one hand and Calhounism on the other. A great many people in 1861 who prided themselves on their superior wisdom talked very much as my friend admits he did.

He had laid up a little money, which he concluded to invest in Kansas lands, and had actually done so in April, 1861, when he reached the town of Leavenworth, famous in the history of border rufflanism during the Kansas troubles. He found the town full of excited people, talking mainly on one side, and soon learned what had taken place at Fort Sumter, and also of the President's call for seventy-five thousand volunteers. He there read that proclamation for the first time.

His only way to get home was to go by steamer up the Missouri some miles, to the little town of Ireton, where the train from Atchison would meet the boat and convey the passengers to St. Joseph. Thence he would cross by rail to Hannibal. The afternoon he reached Leavenworth a boat arrived from Kansas City loaded with secession ruffians, perfectly wild with rum and rebellion. All of them were armed; and they actually had three rebel flags flying over that steamboat on the Missouri, and no Union flag, of course. There my Democratic friend, for the first time, saw "the stars and bars"; and he says the sight was very disagreeable.

On the boat was a gentleman, a Missourian, who had just accepted some office from Mr. Lincoln. This Mr. D. was accompanied by his wife and little children. As these drunken traitors waxed more furious, they began to clamor for the man who had turned Abolitionist and accepted office under an Abolitionist president. This gentleman prudently kept himself out of sight. At last they kicked in his stateroom door; but he was not there. They searched the whole boat like bloodhounds, and at last found him. The boat was now at the bank waiting for the train, and other ruffians from the village joined those on the boat and dragged him like a dog from the boat. His wife sprang and caught him around the neck in the most passionate manner, entreating them not to execute their purpose. The brutes cursed her as roughly as they did her husband, and by main force tore her from him. Again they were dragging him to the shore, with horrid oaths and imprecations, when the wife again rushed up to her husband, and was again dragged back from him. The Federal appointee's death was imminent, when the captain of the steamboat succeeded in gaining his release.

During the entire scene D. displayed the greatest coolness; but, after he was released, with the greatest recklessness, he paced backward and forward along the hurricane deck, defying the rabble to do their worst. My informant begged him to desist, as he certainly would be shot. He had not a single weapon, until supplied with a small revolver by his fellow-traveler.

After the release of D., the ruffians adjourned to a neighboring whisky shop, and indulged in still deeper potations; after which they came back, more furious than ever, with a rope to hang D. They actually tied the rope to the limb of a tree on the bank, and then went for their victim; but he was not to be found, for the captain, well knowing the men, had quietly got him ashore.

In due time the train arrived, and the captain had barely time to place Mrs. D. and her children on board when it started back, with not half-a-dozen passengers. In a little while it stopped and took on D. himself, whose life had thus been saved.

That day the Federal flag was floating over the post-office at St. Joseph; and that day the rebel ruffians tore it down, tore it in pieces, and trampled it under foot with every possible indignity and insult.

The next morning my informant took the train on the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad for Hannibal. It was crowded with Missouri rebels, whose blasphemy and treason, fully inspired by rum, were most shocking. They were armed with pistols, and in some cases guns, and took every means of showing their hatred of the National Government, and predicted what *Missouri* would do. At every station on the road some would leave the train; but others were sure to take their places. And thus it was that entire long, dreadful ride. Treason was as blatant and brazen as in South Carolina or Mississippi. These facts give an insight into the men and spirit of the secession party, which came so near placing this grand state into a condition that must have inflicted on her inconceivable damage. Indeed, with such multitudes inflamed with this furious fanaticism, it would not have been wonderful had they overborne, at least for a time, the patriotism of the loyal majority in Missouri.

How bad it must have been *then* may be inferred from the fact that even yet there are sections in Missouri in which a loyal man is scarcely safe in property or life, and where a ban most inexorable is placed on all social and business intercourse with the hated "Yankees."

I could not but think that my friend's statement of what took place on that day in April, 1861, in the State of Missouri, as already related, forms a fine point of contrast to display the immense changes which have taken place in that state since Missouri rebels tore down and tore up a Union flag in the town of St. Joseph.

The day after I heard these facts I was at Jefferson City, the capital of Missouri, and was interested—I may say thrilled—to think that so few years ago *Gratz Brown* had the nerve to pronounce the first anti-slavery speech ever delivered in that legislature. It was a display of courage as fine as any shown on the battle-field. He then stood nearly alone, a branded fanatic. That fact gives peculiar significancy to the words "*Then* and *Now*." The fanatic of that day has represented Missouri in the United States Senate, and is now one of the most honored of her citizens.

Standing on the dome of the state-house of Jefferson City, one can distinctly see the penitentiary. It reminds one of a fact. About 1839 or 1840, George Thomson, of Ohio, was a member of the Mission Institute, near Quincy, and was convicted at Palmyra of attempting to aid a slave across the Mississippi. His sentence, if I have not forgotten, was to the penitentiary for twenty years. He was a good man—was allowed to establish a Sabbath-school in the prison, "had a revival," and the warden was converted with others. He was allowed even to go alone to labor in the neighboring harvest-fields. That man's sentence, had he served it out in full, would have expired about the time of Lincoln's first election! Think of Missouri THEN, and of Missouri NOW!

OUTSIDE THE CHURCH.

BY REV. R. P. WILLARD.

In city's street a throng of blind,
Palsied, and lame. Gray walls confined

The gaze, and arched an entrance way
Where bowered walks through rich lawns lay,

And glimpse was had under the leaves
Of open doors beneath broad eaves.

Here—blazoned on a pendent shield—
"ALL ENTER IN WHO WOULD BE HEALED!"

They read aloud. One pale face stared
With eyes wild-shot and forehead bared;

One hitched his crutch and limped to front,
To see this sign of wonderment;

The palsied traced each shining word,
And blind men leaped at what they heard;

But none went in. Long, long they stood,
Debating each some other's good,

Bemoaning Life, accusing Fate,
But without strength to pass the gate.

"I am too pained with limb like this,
Which nothing knows but helplessness,

To enter now. Hold, till I've done
With drugs and bitter herbs," said one.

"I am too weak with long disease,
Thin blood and flesh, and sores that seize

My vitals, to be healed. No skill
Can baffle these, but my own will."

A third, though blind, joined the lament:
"Stone-blind from birth, with form o'erbent,

I am not meet to live and die
Where men see clearly eye to eye."

Too impotent, with clothes in shreds,
To heed the sign above their heads,

The throng drew back. A young man cried:
"Who enters weak-kneed loses pride!

When lithe of limb and strong once more,
With lordly footsteps seek the door.

For shame! to press an entrance now,
With weakness graven on the brow!"

Another sighed: "I'd go if sure
The house would work a lasting cure

Warrant I ask, when freed from pain,
Disease will never come again!"

They turned away. With lament loud
Moved on the careless, motley crowd;

Nor ever knew, though vexed with groans,
Hot throbbing brows, and bitter moans,

Their witless tongues did each condemn
A House of Healing built for them!

A WOMAN'S LETTERS FROM WASHINGTON.

FEBRUARY, 1869.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE INDEPENDENT:

MEN like to tell how "women will fight with each other" when they come to take an active part in legislation. If they exercise their utmost talents in that direction, they can hardly excel the wordy and fisty "set-to" of their brethren in Congress at the counting of the electoral vote. Benjamin F. Butler in his excitement drew his coat-sleeves up to his elbows; and, if we may judge by the motion of his hands, it would have been a vast relief to his mind to have used them about the ears of the dogged Vice-President *pro tem.* If anybody does delight in stirring up a muss, it is Benjamin F. It is in the very marrow of the man to do it. To lead a breezy fight, with words for weapons, cutting and slashing, wounding and slaughtering, makes him superbly happy. He must have been very happy last night. He had bullied "Old Ben."; he had attacked "the Speaker"; he had defied the Senate; he had fought for the supremacy of the House; he had threatened revolution; he had made himself, beyond question, the most conspicuous man of the day. After all that he must have slept well, albeit it was not "the sleep of the just." For my part, I was obliged to him for arousing me, from a wilted condition of uncomfortableness, to some interest in the occasion. For, if anything could be more exquisitely tedious, more essentially back-breaking than to be packed like a sardine from 10 A.M. till 5 P.M., for the mere sake of hearing over and over the well-known fact that the electors of said state, having met at their capital, etc., I would like to know it. I did it for your sake, INDEPENDENT. If it had not been for you, I should have been out somewhere, glad in the sunshine. If it hadn't been for Benjamin F. Butler, I doubt if I should have written you after all. But after a "row" you may be always sure of a letter. What the other ten thousand women came for, who have no INDEPENDENT to rule over them; why they staid, when they had to stand; why they pretended to listen, when there was nothing worth listening to, till the "fight" began, are queries in psychology which I cannot answer. Everybody was there. The ——s, uglier than sin. One ——, sweeter than a rosebud. On the whole, we all looked pretty yellow. "Have all the women in Washington such complexions?" asked a fair young stranger. "Yes, under this glass roof and in these painted cross-lights. You are looking at Mrs. Senator ——. I have heard her called the handsomest woman in Washington. Had you seen her the other evening, you might have said so. See her now, the color of saffron." Conclusion, mesdames: There is no use in your trying to look beautiful in these galleries. Your toilettes may; but not you. You never will till you "vote" to have the glass roof blown up and the hideous side-lights shut out. *When* you vote, of course, you will be heroically superior to everything like looks; then perhaps the worse you look the better. The Reporters' Gallery was crowded, the gentlemen of the press leveling their glasses in every direction. The Diplomatic Gallery, set apart exclusively for diplomats, that day showed some distinguished looking men, and two very beautiful women. The galleries opposite were consigned to the families of General Grant, Vice-President Wade, and Speaker Colfax. A damsel by my side resented the fact that so small a part of the gallery should have been set apart for ladies. Surely they have "equal rights" to-day. Even the Gentlemen's Gallery is embroidered with their ribbons. A motion that the cloak-rooms below should be opened to them was sufficient for a feminine irruption over the entire floor of the House. In less than five minutes not only the outer sofas, but at least a third of the seats of members, were occupied by women. Ermines, cashmeres, India shawls, crimson, black, and purple velvets glowed in contrast to the somber men in black. Such a scene makes it very easy to imagine how Congress will look when women vote. Even in that day, "Dr. Walker," don't fancy that the feminine soul will be sufficed with dingy broadcloth. The crowd was crushing. The hot steam in the air gives one a depleted, dissolving feeling, as if there would be nothing left of one to go home with. In vain I tried to go back to "Prue and I." In vain I ate up mamma's fruit-cake, and little M.'s maple candy. Would 1 o'clock never come? At last! And with it the Senate, led by Sergeant-at-Arms Brown, the Secretary, Mr. Gorham, and Mr. Wade, President *pro tem.* Mr. Wade took his seat beside the Speaker. The senators, arm-in-arm, walked in, filling the last vacant seat. Of course, Massachusetts sat in the front seat, erect and straight-faced, in the person of Henry Wilson. Boston sat in the front seat, also stretched out in the shape of Charles Sumner. Every available spot on the floor and in the gallery was now filled. Yet, as the tellers, Senator Conkling and Representatives Pruyn and Wilson, proceeded to read the certificates of the different states, we might well exclaim: "This is dullness!" When Mr. Mullens, of Tennessee, objected to the announcement of the vote of Louisiana came the first stir of life. After due discussion and the reading of the twenty-second rule, the Senate marched back to its chamber with great dignity. They left dullness behind them, and it did not depart at their coming back, till General Butler, in a voice that "meant fight," rose and declared: "Mr. President, I object to the votes of the State of Georgia being counted, and send my objections in writing to the Chair."

Nothing could have been more simple, natural, and unparliamentary than the manner of the Vice-President *pro tem.* in replying to the revolutionary objector. He drawled, he hesitated, he pounded with the gavel, and yet made such an explicit declaration of the meaning of the concurrent resolution that house and gallery broke out in laughter, in clapping of hands, in a general outburst of merriment that no amount of gavel pounding could silence. It is impossible to imagine a person appearing more utterly out of place than "Ben. Wade" in the chair of a presiding officer. In his seat as senator he always said his own say in his own way, which was like nobody's else. He paid little attention to times or seasons; he defied rules, resolutions, parliamentary laws, whenever it pleased him so to do. No power on earth could beat into the brain of such a man respect for technicalities. It was fit that the Senate should show their appreciation of his long and faithful public service by choosing him as its President *pro tem.;* but in all their body they could not have found another man, by temperament, culture, and habit, so ill fitted for the duties of a presiding officer. Thus, with a complicated and unprecedented storm rising around him, no ready appeal, no reference to immutable rule came to lead him straight out of trouble. Before Benjamin B.'s cry of "high constitutional law" what could the poor President *pro tem.* do but get up and sit down, and pound the gavel helplessly, till the happy thought came to him to lead the Senate back a second time to its chamber, there to deliberate over Benjamin B. Once more the Senate marched out; but no longer as a solid, august body. The dignity of the Senate was for the moment forgotten in the emotion of the individual man. Each one strode out after his own fashion, with the air of a mortal who had "something on his mind." An hour and a quarter's interregnum of suffocation and dullness dreadful to bear, and the Senate appears in the Hall of Representatives for the third time. Now was revealed the fiery antagonism between Senate and House. Mr. Butler immediately renewed the attack with the utmost impetuosity. In vain the President *pro tem.* attempted to ignore Mr. Butler, by stating that the objections of the gentleman from Massachusetts had been overruled by the Senate, by directing the tellers to go on with the count of the vote of Georgia. Cries of "No!" "No!" "Yes!" "Yes!" amid the utmost excitement and confusion, now filled the chamber. It was at this time that Gen. Butler pulled his sleeves to his elbows, as if he were going into a fist encounter, and, amid shouts of "Order!" and cries of "He does!" and "He does not!" resounding from every quarter, in reply to his question, "Do I not speak the sentiments of the House?" he continued to exclaim: "I raise the question of order, sir, that the decision of the Senate shall not overrule the orders and resolutions of the House. I do not understand that the representatives of the people can be so overruled." With every word the noise and confusion increased. All Mr Wade could say was that the debate was not in order. B. F. B. responded, in an insolent tone: "I am not debating it. No arbitrary proceedings will be suffered here, sir." "If the gentleman is not debating it, he will take his seat," said honest Ben. This "hit" made everybody laugh. The laugh seemed to revive the courage of the bullied President, and he ordered the gentleman from Massachusetts to resume his seat. This the gentleman from Massachusetts had not the slightest intention of doing. Here the noise in the vast hall became almost deafening. The President, again ignoring Mr. Butler, called upon the teller to read the vote under the concurrent resolution. Other voices now lifted the cry, "I object!" "I cannot help that," remarked imperturbable Ben., amid renewed shouts of laughter. At last, amid the utmost turmoil and noise, Senator Conkling rose to announce the result of the vote. His first sentence was lost in the cry of "No vote!" "No vote!" Here the disorder was so disgraceful the Speaker, for the first time, took active part, by rising and directing the Sergeant-at-Arms to arrest any member who refused to obey the orders of the convention. This order was greeted by cheers on the senatorial side, and with a little less uproariousness on the part of the House. Yet it was amid unprecedented confusion that the votes were read, the final result reached, and the presiding officer declared Ulysses S. Grant, of Illinois, duly elected President, and Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana, duly elected Vice-President of the United States. Finally Mr. Wade declared that the "*joint convention*, having accomplished the business which brought it here, will now retire to the Senate Chamber."

This poor little bull again filled the hall with the loudest laughter, amid which the senators, with an air of mingled injury and resentment, gathered themselves up and marched forth from the hall in which they had endured such indignities. The moment they had departed, Benjamin B. was up with a resolution to the effect "that the House protests that the counting of the vote of Georgia by the order of the Vice-President *pro tem.* was a gross act of oppression, and an invasion of the rights and privileges of the House." He then went on to state the outrage done to the House in the fact that the Senate could leave the House when it chose; but the House could not kick the Senate out, if it wanted to. The Senate to-day relieved its sense of injured feeling by resolving "that the noisy, disorderly, and tumultuous conduct of Benjamin F. Butler, of Massachusetts, is disreputable to the said Benjamin F. Butler, and the other representatives acting with him, and a wrong and insult to the people of the United States."

The trouble arose solely from the inadequacy of the prescribed formula to supply complete directions for the occasion of the counting of the electoral votes. There is no rule which provides for the right of appeal from the presiding officer to the joint convention of the two houses of Congress. Mr. Butler's acute sense, seeing the difficulty, pounced on it, fought it, tore it with the ferocity of a hound scenting blood; while Mr. Wade with the dogged tenacity of a bull-dog, held on and would not let go. He did his duty as he understood it. Yet no dispassionate person will deny that there was truth on the Butler side of the question. In a government like ours it is not difficult to foresee a complication where the right of appeal from the presiding officer of the two houses would be a demand of absolute justice. But Mr Butler's manner of objecting was sufficient to destroy all cool judgment on the merit of the question. In his impetuosity, abuse, and fury were revealed the dangerous quality of the man. With opportunity, what revolution would he not arouse, what power would he not assume and maintain!

M. C. A.

ANECDOTES OF THE LATE REV. DR. BAIRD.

BY PHINNEAS T. BARNUM.

RETURNING from Liverpool, after my second visit to Europe with Tom Thumb, in 1846, I took passage on board the Cunard steamer commanded by Captain Judkins. One of my fellow-passengers was the celebrated divine, Robert Baird. I had known him as the author of an octavo volume, "Religion in America"; and, while that work had impressed me as exhibiting great ability and an outspoken honesty of purpose, it had also given me the notion that its author must be very rigid and hardly tolerant as a sectarian. Still I was happy to make his acquaintance on board the steamship, and soon regarded with favor the venerable Presbyterian divine.

Dr. Baird had been for some time a missionary in Sweden. He was now paying a visit to his native land. I found him a shrewd, well-informed Christian gentleman, and I took much pleasure in hearing him converse. One night it was storming furiously. The waves, rolling high, afforded a sight of awful grandeur, to witness which I was tempted to put on a pea-jacket, go upon the deck, and lash myself to the side of the ship. After I had been there nearly an hour, wrapt in meditation and wonder, not unmixed with awe, Dr. Baird came up in the darkness, feeling his way cautiously along the deck. As he came where I was, I hailed him; and he asked what I was doing so long up there.

"Listening to the preaching, Dr.," I replied; "and I think it beats even yours, although I have never had the pleasure of hearing you."

"Ah!" he replied, "none of us can preach like this. How humble and insignificant we all feel in the presence of such a display of the Almighty power; and how grateful we should be to remember that infinite love guides this power."

The Sunday following, divine service was held as usual in the large after cabin. Of course, it was the Episcopal form of worship. The captain conducted the services, assisted by the clerk and the ship's surgeon. A dozen or two of the sailors, shaved, washed, and neatly dressed, were marched into the cabin by the mate; most of the passengers were also present.

Those who have witnessed this service, as conducted by Captain Judkins, need not be reminded that he does it much as he performs his duties on deck. He speaks as one having authority; and a listener could hardly help feeling that there would be some danger of a "row" if the petitions (made as a sort of command) were not speedily answered.

After dinner I asked Dr. Baird if he would be willing to preach to the passengers in the forward cabin. He said he would cheerfully, if it was desired. I mentioned it to the passengers, and there was a generally-expressed wish among them that he should do so. I went into the forward cabin, and requested the steward to arrange the chairs and tables properly for religious service. He replied that I must first get the captain's consent. Of course, I thought this was a mere matter of form; so I went to the captain's office, and said:

"Captain, the passengers desire to have Dr. Baird conduct a religious service in the forward cabin. I suppose there is no objection."

"Decidedly there is," replied the captain, gruffly; "and it will not be permitted."

"Why not?" I asked, in astonishment.

"It is against the rules of the ship."

"What! to have religious services on board?"

"There have been religious services once to-day, and that is enough. If the passengers do not think that is good enough, let them go without," was the captain's hasty and austere reply.

"Captain," I replied, "do you pretend to say you will not allow a respectable and well-known clergyman to offer a prayer and hold religious services on board your ship at the request of your passengers?"

"That, sir, is exactly what I say. So, now, let me hear no more about it."

By this time a dozen passengers were crowding around his door, and expressing their surprise at his conduct. I was indignant, and used sharp language.

"Well," said I, "this is the most contemptible thing I ever heard of on the part of the owners of a public passenger ship. Their meanness ought to be published far and wide."

"You had better shut up," said Captain Judkins, with great sternness.

"I will not 'shut up,'" I replied; "for this thing is perfectly outrageous. In that out-of-the-way forward cabin, you allow, on week days, gambling, swearing, smoking, conversing, and singing, till late at night; and yet on Sunday you have the impudence to deny the privilege of a prayer-meeting, conducted by a gray-haired and respected minister of the Gospel. It is simply infamous!"

Captain Judkins turned red in the face; and, no doubt feeling that he was "monarch of all he surveyed," exclaimed, in a loud voice:

"If

The Independent.

THE HISTORIC JESUS.

VII.

THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

BY REV. SAMUEL T. SPEAR, D.D.

MIRACLES are events relative to the general course of Nature, yet so different therefrom as to be *supernatural*, and hence to demand for their production a special interposition of divine power. Their possibility is involved in the doctrine of a Personal God, considered as the Author of Nature and all its laws, and therefore fully competent to work miracles. Their credibility, to a personal observer, rests upon the authority of the human senses certifying to them as facts. Their credibility, if *reported*, whether by living witnesses or the records of history, is measured by the character and degree of the testimony that reports them. No reason exists, in the nature of the case, why the testimony of competent and reliable witnesses should not be deemed sufficient to establish the reality of miracles. There is no sounder law of thought than to trust such testimony on all questions of fact, and indeed no other law by which one can extend his knowledge beyond the sphere of his own personal observation.

Hume's position that the course of Nature is so uniform and permanent as necessarily to exclude the supposition of miracles, and hence that no testimony can prove them, is simply an assumption. Those who testify to such facts on the basis of their own observation and experience contradict Hume's doctrine of invariable uniformity; and clearly it will not do for him to contradict their experience by simply reasserting the doctrine.

Was Jesus of Nazareth a *miracle-worker?* That he was such is as certain as the truth of the Gospel narrative. In this narrative we not only have general references to the fact that he wrought miracles, and that such was the impression of eye-witnesses: but we also have thirty-three of these miracles described in detail, not one of which can be explained on the theory of natural law without essentially mutilating the history. The resurrection of Lazarus, as reported in the eleventh chapter of John, is upon its face an event not reducible to the category of natural law. The same is true of the other specific miracles detailed in the Gospel history. A bold and naked infidelity, which in plain words denies the record, is intellectually decent in comparison with that system of rationalism which undertakes exegetically to read the miracles *out* of the Gospel narrative. We should as soon think of reading the solar system out of space by a treatise on the laws of optics. The effort is a simple larceny against the obvious meaning of language, wanting alike in candor and common sense.

The *characteristics* of these miracles, as set forth in the Gospel narrative, are the following: (1.) They were observable by men, and also wrought under such circumstances, at such times, and in such places as to afford the fullest opportunity of judging as to their reality. (2.) Taken as a whole, they were performed in the presence of a great variety of witnesses, residing in different parts of the Holy Land; and hence they were largely stamped upon the public thought of the age. (3.) They were exceedingly various in their type—a circumstance which precludes the supposition of management and trickery by a great diversity in the modes of testing the miraculous power. (4.) Their occasions were naturally supplied by the ordinary course of events, without any effort on the part of Jesus to make them, or any appointments beforehand, or indeed anything analogous to the preparatory arts of a modern exhibition. (5.) The manner of Jesus in working his miracles implied an inherent and self-sufficient power. He put his hand upon the laws of Nature, not as if experimenting upon them; but as if he were the Lord of these laws, and felt himself to be the absolute master of all occasions, and all works which he chose to do. (6.) His miracles appear to be perfectly congruous with his general character. Never destructive or vindictive, they were for the most part expressions of benevolence as well as of power; often attended by tokens of the tenderest sympathy, extended as readily to the poor just as readily as to the rich; always gratuitous; and generally accompanied with some species of moral comment, as if his main purpose was, not to startle men with wonders, or merely relieve their present sufferings, but rather to impress them with truth. They are marked by no want of good sense or virtue and no mistakes of judgment.

The *argumentative* use which Jesus made of his miracles is that of *testimony* to himself and the nature of his mission among men. He presented them as credentials proving the truth of his doctrine. He said to the Jews: "If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But, if I do, though ye believe not *me*, believe the *works*, that ye may know and believe that the Father is in me and I in him." He did not ask men to take his statements without proof; but he did demand faith in his *words* on the basis of the supernatural credentials which he furnished. His ministry of *ideas* he demonstrated by his ministry of *works*. The great point of interest attaching to his miracles consists in the fact that they are *arguments* of divine power, attesting Jesus of Nazareth as a teacher sent from God. For this purpose they form the most conclusive proof that can be conceived. He who knowingly rejects a doctrine or a teacher thus attested sets God and reason at defiance. Even David Hume, that most subtle skeptic, did not deny the power of miracles as *proof;* what he disputed is, the power of *evidence* to prove their reality.

Such then, for substance, is Jesus the *miracle-worker*, as described in the four Gospels. Are these Gospels good authority in proof of the facts thus alleged? On this point the reader is asked to estimate the argumentative value of the following particulars:

1. The Gospel narrative supplies the same reason for believing in the miracles of Jesus that it does for believing in anything else placed in the history of his life. Whatever weight of authority it possesses attaches to its entire *contents*. All parts stand on precisely the same footing of historical evidence. Moreover, the miracles are so blended with other parts of the narrative that they cannot be detached from it without tearing the whole story into disjointed and unintelligible fragments, especially in those cases in which the teaching of Jesus had direct reference to his miracles. If, therefore, we accept any part of this history on the authority of its *source*, then, for the same reason, we ought to accept the whole of it.

2. The four Gospels, as the subjects of history, can be traced back, from this to the apostolic age, by a line of evidence entirely conclusive as to their reputed authors, as to their first appearance near the age of the events they describe, and as to their uncorrupted transmission from that age to this by copies and translations. In these respects they have a much stronger claim than the writings of Herodotus, Xenophon, Julius Cæsar, Tacitus, Philo, or Josephus; and hence we must either turn our backs upon all the records of the remote past, and thus dissolve our connection of knowledge with ancient times, or admit that these Gospels furnish at least some reason for believing in the truth of what they declare. They are the providential legacy of a past age, coming to us with every historic qualification attending them of which the case admits. Why then is not Matthew or John as good authority on a question of fact as Herodotus or Xenophon?

3. Each of these Gospels is a distinct work by itself, with its distinct author; each deals with the same general subject, and tells substantially the same story. Two of them were written by eye-witnesses of the things they describe, and the other two by persons who had an ample opportunity to know the truth of what they affirmed; And when compared together, we find that, without contradiction, they agree and differ just as any four persons would be likely to do if honestly narrating a set of facts with which they were all familiar. Their numerous differences show that the authors wrote independently of each other, without any collusion or arrangement to tell the same story; and their substantial agreements equally show a common basis of truth in the facts which they delineate. Nothing but truth as the common property of them all can explain this agreement. Such a concurrence of four distinct and independent witnesses would be deemed sufficient to settle any question of fact in a court of justice.

4. The Gospel narrative, by reason of its *contents*, can never be explained upon the theory of *fiction*. To get up such a character as that of Jesus on the basis of pure fiction, without any foundation in facts; to weave the several parts of this fiction together so as to make them all fit the central design; to devise the occasions for what Jesus said, and then put imaginary words upon his lips—combining in him without excess, or defect, or disproportion all the principles of perfect wisdom and perfect purity as the actualities of a real life; then to add the *miraculous* part of the wonderful story—working in a miracle here and another there, and making the hero of these extraordinary marvels the simple and lovely Jesus who speaks so wisely in the Sermon on the Mount; to grasp and solve, with the most unparalleled success, such a prodigious problem of thought, with nothing but fancy for the creation of facts and genius for their combination; then to cheat the world for eighteen centuries by seeming to write a history when there is really nothing in it but mere fancy—this, indeed, is a solution of the historic Jesus that one wants an enormous amount of credulity to accept. He who can digest this theory can digest anything. The plain truth is, nothing but the facts existing before the narrative can ever explain the narrative. If the Evangelists were not *copyists*, with an original before them, then they must have been *gods* in the shape of men. If they wrote out the facts *as* they knew them, then the wonder is transferred from themselves to the character they describe; and this is the view of the matter which reason most readily approves.

5. The apostles, whose living testimony to the miracles of Jesus was given before the Gospels were written, possess the character of *competent* and *honest* witnesses. Their competency consists in the fact that they were men of common sense, having seen and heard, as they allege, and as no one successfully denies, the very things in respect to which they testify. That they were honest, fully believing in the truth of their own statements, is evident from the manner of their lives. They present none of the usual marks of the impostor or the enthusiast. Deceivers they were not; and deceived they could not be. Why then should we not believe these competent and honest witnesses, two of whom are among the Gospel writers, and all of whom, at the peril of their lives, boldly proclaimed the miraculous facts which are reported in the written Gospels? What the history reports they set before the people with the living voice. They had the opportunity to know, and they did know; and this knowledge they sealed with their blood.

6. This apostolic testimony was first delivered in the very age of the miracles to which it refers, in the country where they are declared to have been performed, and in the hearing of those who were competent to refute it if false; and it was accepted by hundreds and thousands, under circumstances so peculiar that its truth forms the best explanation of the acceptance. Multitudes of people—contrary to their previous education, without the bribes of public favor, at great personal inconvenience and peril to themselves, and with no hope of worldly advantage—did embrace Christianity on the basis of the apostolic allegation of miracles. They believed in the miracles which the apostles wrought, and in those of Jesus to which they testified; and this fact, taken in connection with their contiguity to the age and the place of these events, lends no inconsiderable weight to the credibility of the Gospel history. It is virtually the testimony of these early converts to the facts; and in relation to our faith it is just what it would have been if it had been put into writing, and come down to our age in a written form. It is the indorsement of the facts of the Gospel history by great numbers of men at the time, and in such circumstances as to create a strong probability of its truth.

7. The Epistles of Paul—documents entirely distinct from the Gospels, addressed sometimes to churches and sometimes to single individuals—though not describing the miracles of Jesus in detail, or formally making any reference to the Gospel narrative, nevertheless contain general allusions to these miracles, as if they were facts so well known in that age that a mere allusion would suffice to bring them to view. If the military history of General Grant were called in question two thousand years hence, it would add very greatly to its credibility if it could be shown that the facts thereof were in various ways repeatedly alluded to as matters of general knowledge at about the time of their occurrence. This is precisely the service which Paul, though not the historian of Jesus, incidentally renders to the credibility of the Gospel narrative. He abundantly implies what the narrative describes.

8. The Gospel account of Jesus is an uncontradicted story. Not a fragment of ancient history is in conflict with a single thing stated by the Evangelists. So far, moreover, as collateral history bears at all upon the Gospel record, it shows the writers to be faithful describers of facts and circumstances in all the incidental matters to which they had occasion to allude. Josephus, for example, confirms their accuracy in regard to many things pertaining to the Jews, while he does not contradict them in a single particular. His History of the Jews commends the general credibility of the Gospel narrative, and adds weight to its authority in its allegation of miracles.

9. This narrative carries upon its face the style, manner, and temper of truth. It is simple and plain, having no appearance of being guarded and cautious, as if conscious of a fraudulent purpose; committing itself on a great variety of points, and thus exposing itself to easy refutation if false; making no pleas in anticipation of objections; and withal stating the most wonderful things and the most common things in the same plain and artless manner. Never was an account drawn up with greater appearances of honest knowledge on the part of those who drew it. They write like *truth-tellers*.

On the whole, we conclude that there is *real weight* in the evidence of the Gospel narrative. It amounts to something—yea, it amounts to much; and, unless this evidence can be set aside by stronger opposing proof (a thing which has never been done) then the natural laws which govern human faith demand that it should be regarded as sufficient to establish the miracles of Jesus. Jesus thus attested we accept as God's messenger to earth. We accept also the doctrine which he spake, and that too because he spake it. If there be any better attitude for faith than this, we have not yet found it. The rationalism which seeks to dispense with the *supernatural* in religion we regard as a very poor substitute for the teaching of Jesus—"a man approved of God by miracles, and wonders, and signs which God did by him." The SUPERNATURAL is the true basis of the life of Jesus. Never did mortal man speak more in accordance with the facts than did the Jewish ruler when he said: "Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that thou doest except God be with him."

TRUE RICHES.

[FROM THE GERMAN.]

BY S. H. BROWNE.

'Twas a grand and courtly conclave
Met at Worms' imperial hall,
Where King Francis asked his princes
"Which was richest of them all?"

Deep they drained the golden goblets,
Reveled high and feasted well;
Boasted each his lands or treasures:
"Which was richest" none could tell.

"Glorious," said the Saxon monarch,
"Is *my* realm, whose mountains bare
Yield exhaustless stores of silver,
Which her prince and people share!"

"Mighty cities, wealthy convents,"
Cried Bavaria's stalwart lord,
"Of *my* land's surpassing splendor
Most undoubted proofs afford.";

"*Mine* is famed for vast abundance,"
Urged the Elector of the Rhine;
"Golden harvests crown her valleys,
Vineyards pour the luscious wine."

Spake then Everhard the Bearded,
Wirtemburg's beloved lord:
"Of my country, poor and feeble,
I can speak no vaunting word.

"It can boast no mines of silver,
Towns and towers are few and small;
Yet it holds a priceless treasure—
Rarer, richer than them all!

"For upon the darkest midnight,
Or in forests lone and drear,
Could I trust my meanest subject
With whate'er my heart holds dear!"

Then a shout of praise and triumph
Rang through Worms' imperial hall:
"Great is Everhard the Bearded,
He is richest of us all!"

Rich is he whose mountain coffers
Yield him stores of virgin gold;
Richer he whose vales and vineyards
Ripened shocks and clusters hold;

But the truest, noblest treasure
That an earthly prince should prize
Is the people, loud and faithful,
On whose Love his heart relies!

MR. GREELEY ON THE WOMAN QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE INDEPENDENT:

THE other evening, we country folks of Chester County, Pa., enjoyed the pleasure of hearing a lecture from the Hon. Horace Greeley, on the not yet worn-out theme of Woman. The discourse was the more interesting from our conviction of the entire candor of the speaker; and yet some among us could not but feel that, if so honest a mind had been encased in a woman's body, that mind would have arrived at clearer views on women's affairs.

Encouraged by the speaker's generous assertion that what he should say was intended rather to provoke further thought than to be considered as final, and believing that to the examination of at least every moral question the eye masculine and the eye feminine are equally essential to secure a true perspective; feeling that to accept the report of either singly would be as if we were satisfied to look through one glass of a stereoscope; I venture to offer, on one or two points of his lecture, the view of an eye feminine, even to so skilled an observer as Mr. Greeley.

After some funny remarks about side-saddle cavalry, etc., the speaker said that, whereas the introduction of machinery had taken from woman her old-time occupation of manufacturing the clothing of the world, some other sphere of labor seemed to be demanded for her. But here he was checked by a very grave consideration; namely, the danger of removing a safeguard from female virtue. The experiment had been tried in Philadelphia of giving clerkships to young women; but he regretted to learn that the result had been unfortunate—the increase of means acquired by these ladies had tended, by rendering them independent of the approval of men, to make them less careful of their reputations.

If this were so, it were a grievous fault. But is he sure of a number of cases sufficient to justify so fatal an inference? And, if so, ought he not to commence at once a crusade against the employment of the thousands of female teachers, who stand today in imminent danger of ruin?

Or, is it only unusual occupations which have this tendency? If so, we need only multiply the cases to cure the evil; and meantime I know of many women in that same city, earning handsome livelihoods by clerking, gymnastics, engraving, designing, lithographing, painting, medicine, etc.; whom I have always considered much safer than the piano-bangers, of whom Miss Leslie used to say,

"And their dream of life, from morn till night,
Was Beaux, still Beaux."

Believe me, the virtue of a girl who is correct in conduct because she relies for her bread on the favor of your sex is but a flimsy fabric compared with the virtue of her whose wholesome occupation of mind, and inherent self-respect, which is a growth of freedom and not of dependence, forbids her to accept an indignity to the worth of her own nature. Think, sir; try to realize for a moment what a sense of degradation, what a loss of confidence in your own power for rectitude, what a lowering of your whole plane of existence, would ensue, if you were suddenly taught, and forced to act on the lesson, that whatsoever of virtue you cherished in yourself as your highest was henceforth to be cultivated, not to your God and your own soul, but that so you might find favor in the sight of some well-to-do woman and settle your prospects in life. She for God only, he for God in her.

In regard to the question of suffrage, the lecturer thought that, if any large number of women wanted it, they ought to have it; but he strongly advised them not to want it. He had tried the doll, and could really give them his word that it was stuffed with saw-dust. But, after all, how many are there who want it? "How many in this hall?"

For the hall I am unable to answer; but, if he reads the papers (I think it likely he takes a paper), he may have noticed that in France, in Germany, even in Russia, movements are instituted for the social and political elevation of women; that in England the suffrage is largely demanded; and that from our own country, especially Northeast and West, petitions are accumulating on that "table" which will soon become too full to allow our brothers to accomplish other business until they are cleared off.

There was one point, however, which had probably escaped our notice, and which, in the speaker's judgment, would prove an insuperable objection to our accepting the ballot. Did it ever occur to us that, in assuming the rights of citizenship, we assumed the liability to its requisitions? How many women present were willing to serve on a jury? How many to submit to the draft, in case of war?

Well, let us take our last war: if all the women had been liable, how many would have been called upon to serve? In all probability, not one; for the simple reason that, while they would not make as good soldiers, they could not, at that time of all in their lives, be spared from home. If it had been their way to retire to castles, and there remain four years to pray and cry, they might as well have been drafted; but what, instead, did they do?

They took care of the children.

What else? They made clothes for the armies.

What else? They raised millions of money, by feminine contrivances, to use for the comfort of the soldiers.

What else? They kept tables forever spread in our cities, that regiments passing through might always find refreshment.

What else? They worked day and night in hospitals, all over the land.

What else? They assumed their husbands' tasks in shop and field. I know of a few and have heard of many cases in which, when the men went to fight, the women took up the farm-work—ploughed, sowed, reaped and garnered, went regularly to market; in short, did all which, in peaceful times, would have been divided between the women and men? Could any work on the battle-field have compensated for the loss of these in their own place? On the contrary, I suspect that these men who so jealously reserve to themselves the power to vote the nation into a war, to take a woman's husband and sons from her arms, and her bread from her mouth, would have been dismayed indeed if she had declined to take her full share of war's responsibilities.

Let one can imagine rare cases in which, if fighting be righteous, we ought to take our share. If the invader should come to our thresholds, and threaten our homes and children, then, vote or no vote, I take it that any true woman, not unwomaned by too many years' training in cowardice, would stand to defend her own.

As to serving on a jury, I believe physical disability is always accepted as a reason for declining this office; but, in view of the surprisingly large proportion of the human race (male) which stands confessed, when called upon, as unable to endure a protracted confinement of this nature, I am obliged to infer that women would be even more eligible. However that may be, any woman who can perform her accustomed duties, day after day, and walk the floor with a sick child night after night (her husband must not lose his sleep, he feels so badly in the morning), has probably sufficient endurance to sit on a jury.

But I suppose Mr. Greeley meant further to allude to other disagreeable possibilities incident to the office, and to imply that any refined woman would shrink from encountering them. Of course, and so should any refined man; but he should not, to save his feelings, discard the trial by jury. Neither should women withhold from their sister the right to be tried by her peers. Moreover, it is not the nearness to evil that degrades, but the motive for nearness. Our women, our highest and purest, who make their monthly or weekly visits to the foulest holes in our city, come back the higher and purer for their deeds of mercy. If, however, we *should* be in error on this point, it is time for us to become alarmed for the safety of our husbands. If they be demoralized, what shall become of us? For, note it, sir, it is the merest nonsense to suppose it possible to maintain one moral standard for men, and another for the wives who look in their eyes and breathe their breath. If a man is corrupt, his wife is either corrupt or wretched.

And, again, Mr. G. exclaims: "Now, my dears, that I have made it all so plain to you, what woman is there, save and except Miss Anthony, who would make herself liable to the risks I have pointed out, for the paltry reward of a chance to deposit her vote?"

How many? One cannot conveniently get at the number. I know there have been a good many signers of petitions to that effect in Chester Co. But I can say, for one woman, that to secure for herself so great an enhancement of self-respect, of her status with her children, of her power for good, as lie, to her mind, in that little word, the ballot, she would sit on a jury once a month, if needful—aye, and run her chance for the draft, if she were decided to be so poor a specimen of a woman that she could be put to no better use at home.

Lastly (which was our lecturer's firstly), he remarked that, although there are exceptional instances all through history, of women who had taken their part in whatever happened to be the leading occupation of the time—whether fighting, art, or letters—the instances were proportionately so few that it was easy to see throughout a broad distinction in the spheres of the sexes. This it were hard to deny; nor have I ever found a woman who wished to deny it; nor have I found the woman who wished that women should oftener be seen at plough than cradle, or men be oftener seen at cradle than plough. We all understand that man is in general the better ploughman, and woman the better nurse. What we ask is, a field so clear of obstruction that all capacities, whether in man or woman, may settle of their own gravity into their fitting places. Only, let not the man attempt to find the place for the woman. She has a right to try all, and stand where she can.

I know it is a common mode of settling a question to say: thus it ever has been; therefore, thus it ever shall be. So argues Mr. Greeley. The sphere of woman always has been exceedingly limited; therefore, it always will be. Those of us whose minds are so constituted as to believe that our Creator is nearer the beginning than the end of his human experiment will incline to question the certainty of such conclusions.

Now, although there are probably few of us who believe, with Mrs. Farnham, that women, on the whole, are better than men, there is one thing certain: that, inherent in the very differences of sex, of which men only see the disabilities, are actual differing capacities; positive advantages, mental, spiritual, even physical (not muscular*) qualities lacking in man, and doubtless intended to balance our lack of some masculine qualities; capacities long almost latent, soon to be developed, soon to be acknowledged by the world as genuine power.

I say to be, because, although women have existed aforetime, and men have tried in vain to understand and make spheres for them, woman is only about to be discovered; and (meaning no offense in life to our brothers) I think the reason is that the world is only about to become fit for her occupation. Fighting she was not good for; hewing she was not good for. So, while the race male was sowing the dragon's teeth, and mowing the crop away, and sweeping, so to speak, for her reception, she had nothing to do but perpetuate the species and wait. In short, as there were of old distinctive periods in the vegetable and lower forms of animal life, each succeeding period retaining what was best in its predecessor, so we have had later the brute period in our humanity, in which all was fighting; the masculine period, in which the warring of human elements began to subside; and dawns upon us now the feminine period, which, in developing itself, shall more fully develope the masculine, and complete a race of which the universe shall be proud.

A PENNSYLVANIA WOMAN.

* Of the advantages arising from physical difference there is somewhat to be said; but I fear to overtax the newspaper limit.

SONG.

MY COTTAGE-HOME.

I sign for no palace-hall,
With pomp of gems and gold;
But give me one fond, true heart,
With its wealth of love untold,
And a lowly cottage-home
In some sweet, secluded spot,
Where the din of the busy world
And its tumult enters not.

No stately colonnade,
Where rare exotics twine,
So dear as the rustic porch,
With its roof of clustering vine;
Beneath whose sheltering caves
The robin builds her nest,
Cheered by her watchful mate
With the song she loves the best.

Beside my cottage-door
A merry brook shall run,
Laughing with silvery tones
And dancing in the sun.
In the calm and tranquil night
I shall hear its voice of glee,
Like music in my dreams—
A low, sweet melody.

I ask nor wealth, nor power,
Nor men's applause, nor Fame;
Who climbs her toilsome steep
Wins but an empty name.
No greater boon I ask,
Beneath the world's wide dome,
Than a true and loving heart
To share my cottage-home.

E. V. S.

THE CHURCH AT JERUSALEM AND THE FIFTH-AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEW YORK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE INDEPENDENT:

"WE are informed," says the *Examiner and Chronicle*, "that the Fifth-avenue Baptist church of this city 'unanimously resolved to withdraw fellowship from CRAMMOND KENNEDY for holding and promulgating doctrines not held by that church or *the church at Jerusalem*, as described in the Acts of the Apostles.'"

Excommunication, as Christ prescribed it, is invested with dread solemnity. That he gave this power to the Church to make her more powerful as a moral agent is apparent from his teachings as recorded in Matt. xviii., and especially from the 18th verse: "Verily I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and *whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*" The spirit of the three preceding verses requires that the offender, whether he offend against the moral law or sound doctrine, shall be visited; and that his case shall be carefully examined by two or three witnesses, who are at liberty to lay it before the church. No member should be tried, far less *cut off*, until he has been visited by his fellow-members, and accused specifically by one or more of them to the body. Remove these divinely-imposed obligations from the church, and excommunication is in danger of becoming personal, spiteful, inconsiderate, time-serving, and itself a crime.

As in Baptist polity all the powers of a church vest in the body of its members, Baptists have hitherto been tenacious of the preliminaries of ecclesiastical trial as instituted by Christ. But, if the Fifth-avenue church be a criterion, this, like many of the good old Baptist ways, is being forsaken, as the following statement will show:

1. No member of "the Fifth-avenue Baptist church" ever waited upon me to ascertain what "doctrines" I was "holding and promulgating."

2. I had no notification that I was to be tried for heresy by the church.

3. As a consequence, I had no opportunity of making any explanation or defense before my fellow-members.

4. And, perhaps strangest and worst of all, *I have had no official notice of my excommunication.*

That my exclusion was a high-handed, an anomalous, and a most unbaptistic proceeding will appear even to my recent fellow-members themselves, when they consider the facts. And that such conduct as theirs robs excommunication of its high dignity and its awful impressiveness, and leaves it a pretentious farce, must surely be equally clear.

The ground of my exclusion, as stated in the *Examiner and Chronicle* (and I have no other authority on the subject), is as indefinite as the act is "definitive." Fellowship has been withdrawn from me "for holding and promulgating doctrines not held by that church, or the church at Jerusalem, as described in the Acts of the Apostles." *What* doctrines? If "open communion" is my heresy, why not say so? Surely a church that excommunicates in such utter disregard of Christ's instructions is not afraid to mention the reasons for its action. The greater should include the less.

"The Fifth-avenue Baptist church" has no creed. This may account for the reference to the church at Jerusalem and the Acts of the Apostles. The comparison which is instituted in the public prints between the two bodies, in connection and disconnection with me, is both unexpected and surprising; but still is susceptible of expansion and *improvement*, as the old divines used to say. Have my "Fifth-avenue" brethren taken to circumcising? Do they make vows and shave their heads as religious exercises? Are they "all zealous of the law"; and would they treat Paul, the Chistian innovator, as he was treated by the Judaizing believers at Jerusalem, despite the precaution of the Apostle James? There were various practices in the church at Jerusalem which are not in vogue in the "Fifth-avenue Baptist Church" of this city; and there are many in this up-town congregation which were never dreamed of by the first Christians in the Holy City. There, they had all things in common, and none of them lacked; but here they sell their pews by auction, the poor are at a humiliating and most un-Christian disadvantage, and tried friends of the church for a quarter of a century must pay the premium, sit on sufferance, or go. This practice grows out of a doctrine which is held by "the Fifth-avenue Baptist church," and "promulgated" by their auctioneer—a doctrine of which we have no trace "in the church at Jerusalem as described in the Acts of the Apostles," and which, as it seems to me, was condemned by our Saviour when he drove the traders out of the Temple, and rebuked them for making his Father's house a house of merchandise. This suggestive comparison may be extended hereafter. Suffice it to say for the present that, although the church of which I am minister does not publish itself as copying the church at Jerusalem, or any other, the seats of our meeting-houses are all free, and the poor for whom Christ died feel that they are as welcome as the rich.

The *Examiner and Chronicle*—which was informed of my excommunication, while I, the party concerned, have had no other notice—connects it with my plea for Christian communion as follows: "Our friend Kennedy *ceased to be a Baptist* when he embraced the views set forth in his book." Now, suppose that this same paper, under the head of "Who Are They?" or, "Who They Are," and in answer to a remark of *The Nation*, paraded John Bunyan, the author of "DIFFERENCES OF JUDGMENT ON WATER BAPTISM *no Bar to Communion*," as a Baptist, what would be a just and rational inference? But surely this was either never done, or, not finding this treatise in "The Bunyan Library," as issued by the American Baptist Publication Society, the editor mistook John Bunyan for one of his own people. The close-communionists of the olden times called the author of PILGRIM'S PROGRESS, for his defense of Christian communion, "a Machiavelian, devilish, proud, insolent, presumptuous, and the like." Some of the Baptist papers, by misrepresenting my book, myself, and my church connections, and suppressing my replies, are following the example of John Bunyan's opponents—injuring their own cause, and making the open-communionists glad that THE INDEPENDENT *is* independent, that its circulation is so large, that its influence is so great, and that its columns are so free.

CRAMMOND KENNEDY.

Art and Artists.

THE Union League Club has purchased Mr. Ehringer's crayon drawing of "Sheridan's Ride."

....Among other pieces of sculpture, mostly copies, presented to the Redwood Library, in Newport, by Mr. Edward King, is a statue by Mozier, called "The School Boy."

....There are now on exhibition in different galleries in London the works of several American artists; among which is a view of Niagara by Frankenstein, a landscape by Mignot, and the "Rock of Ages" by Oertel.

....Reports have been published of an intended visit to this country by Powers, the sculptor; but late letters from Florence say that he cannot leave his work-people long enough for the purpose. He has about a dozen workmen constantly employed in executing in marble the works he is modeling.

....Reports speak very favorably of Rogers's colossal statue of President Lincoln, which has been modeled in Rome, is to be cast in bronze in Munich, and to be set up in some public place in Philadelphia, in commemoration of the signing of the Emancipation Act. The figure is twelve feet high, and is represented in a sitting position.

....The admirers of Gustav Doré's extravagancies on canvas will soon have an opportunity of enjoying to a satisfying extent a study of his greatest works. An exhibition is to be opened here, and here only in this country, probably, of a large number of his monster paintings; among which will be his famous Baden-Baden Gamblers, painted expressly for the last great Exposition in Paris. This picture is about forty feet in length, and there are no galleries out of New York spacious enough for its exhibition. M. Doré's agent has already arrived in New York, to make arrangements for the reception of the pictures, which are now on their way.

....Mr. M. B. Brady has recently published a catalogue of his very remarkable collection of "War Views and Portraits of Representative Men"; and a resolution has been introduced in Congress for the purpose of taking measures to secure the whole collection for the benefit of the people, by making them the property of the nation. It will be a great loss if they should not be secured, and properly mounted and placed in the Congressional Library. We may readily imagine what value our descendants would attach to these faithful representations of events and scenes which are to become the most renowned in our history by estimating the value which we should set upon similar representations of the men and scenes made memorable by our Revolutionary War.

....Our artists generally complain of dull times, and of the slow sale of their pictures; but good works of art are at all times sure of a good market. A good picture, or a fine piece of statuary, like diamonds and camel's-hair shawls, can always find a purchaser at its full value. The people who can afford to purchase works of art are not only constantly increasing in number, but they are constantly learning how to discriminate in making their purchases between the really meritorious and the meretricious; and the true interests of art are better served by an enlightened severity of criticism among the patrons of art, than by the undiscriminating liberality of uneducated purchasers. Notwithstanding the complaints of dull times, which come from picture dealers, as well as picture producers, we have heard lately of some very good sales being made. Mr. Bradford has sold some of his landscapes, representing Labrador coast scenery, on very advantageous terms; the small single figure of a young boy, by Mr. Guy, which he calls "Inspiration," and of which we gave a brief description not long ago, he sold as soon as it was finished for a thousand dollars; Mr. S. Coleman has sold his fine water-color painting, "The Giralda Corpus Christi Day," for a good price; Mr. Perry has sold his "Work and Play," on his own terms, to a New York railroad king; and we know of a landscape painter who has now on his order-book engagements enough to keep him constantly at his easel for the next five years, and to bring him, at his ordinary prices, some sixty thousand dollars. Still, we do not doubt that a good many artists paint more pictures than they can sell; and that a good many would paint more, if they could sell more.

Music.

JOSEPHINA PHILOMENO, the little Chilian prodigy, who, at the age of only 15, is already an accomplished virtuoso on both the violin and the piano, appeared at Irving Hall on Saturday evening, with indifferent assistance from Signor Paolicchi, a baritone, and Madame Ghioni, soprano. She is certainly a clever child—much cleverer than most of the infant phenomena who are forced into early bloom by injudicious parents and teachers; and unless she is spoiled by the premature exercise of her talents, she bids fair to become a fine artist.

....A concert in aid of the Brooklyn Academy of Design attracted a large audience to the Brooklyn Academy of Music on the evening of the 12th. The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher opened the exercises with an address, after which the Amateur Philharmonic Society played Suppe's overture to the "Poet and Peasant." Ole Bull aroused the enthusiasm which he almost always awakens, contributing to the programme a curious medley of music, the "Carnival of Venice," the "Arkansas Traveler," his own "*Cantabile doloroso e Rondo giocoso*," and "Home, Sweet Home"; Mr. S. B. Mills appeared at the piano; and there was some singing by Mrs. Agatha States and Mr. Frederick Stelns.

....Another excellent musical enterprise has been commenced at Mr. Beecher's church in Brooklyn, and is meeting with most gratifying success. This is a series of weekly afternoon organ concerts, at the third of which, last Saturday, the performer was Mr. John M. Loretz, Jr. He played the overtures to "Fra Diavolo" and "Der Freischutz," selections from "Trovatore" and "Faust," a romanza from Schumann's D minor symphony, and a prelude and fugue arranged from Bach. There were probably no fewer than 2,500 people present, and the applause was loud and long. The low price of admission to these concerts, only 15 cents, puts them within the reach of almost everybody; and they will exert, we trust, a refining and elevating influence.

....Next to the Philharmonic concerts in scientific importance are the admirable symphony soirees of Mr. Theodore Thomas, the third of which, for the present season, was given on Saturday evening, at Steinway Hall. The basis of the programme is always of a symphonic character, but the co-operation of the Mendelssohn Union enables Mr. Thomas this year to vary the entertainment by a free introduction of vocal music, of a kind which is very rarely heard in the United States. On Saturday evening, for instance, he gave a superb motet of Palestrina's "*Fratres ego enim*," sung by two full choruses without accompaniment, and the "Choral Fantasia" of Beethoven, which is for chorus, piano, and orchestra, and the theme of which is nearly identical, in the vocal part, with the chorus of the famous Ninth Symphony. The piano obligato in this piece was charmingly played by Mr. S. B. Mills. The same excellent artist also gave two solo pieces. The orchestral works were Schumann's Opus 52 (overture, scherzo, and finale), and Liszt's symphonic poem of "Tasso."

Scientific.

LEAD pencils, once really made of lead, are now chiefly made of the plumbago from the Albert Mines, in Siberia.

....The winter has been very mild in England. Honeysuckles, primroses, violets, and stocks have bloomed freely in the open air in January.

....Piles placed in the Rhine by the Romans, nearly 2,000 years ago, have been found to be entirely sound when removed within the present century.

....The highest permanent human habitation on the surface of the globe is the Buddhist monastery of Hanle, in Thibet, at a hight of 15,117 feet above the sea.

....The store of Ball & Black, on Broadway, is now lighted by a mixture of ordinary gas with oxygen playing on a magnesium wire. The gas is exceedingly brilliant, and promises to be more generally introduced.

....A celebrated oak at Loderbur's Hof, in Hanover, which was reputed to be a thousand years old, has fallen a victim to the late hurricane. It was forty feet in circumference near the ground, and some of its branches were three feet in diameter.

....The *Naturalist* mentions the remarkable instinct of an opossum which was overtaken by a freshet, and sought refuge on a post of a fence that projected above the waters. It might easily have swum to land, but evidently knew that the fourteen young which were found in its pouch must have been drowned in the attempt. It was nearly starved when captured.

....The largest submarine project of modern days, the French Atlantic Cable, is making rapid strides at the gutta-percha works and at the telegraph construction works at Woolwich, England. It is expected to be laid in August. It consists of 3,047 miles of rope, and it will be submerged from the same ship and by the same experienced hands that were engaged over the previous cables.

....The indefatigable Dr. A. S. Packard, Jr., of Salem, Mass., proposes to publish this Spring a year book of the progress of American Entomology, if he can secure 300 subscribers. He will have the aid of such authorities as J. L. Le Conte, S. H. Scudder, Baron Osten Sacken, and others. As the price is to be only seventy-five cents, we should think there ought to be no difficulty in obtaining subscriptions. Boys, write to him.

....The *American Naturalist* suggests, as the best way of freeing dogs of fleas, that their kennels be frequently swept and cleaned, as the larvæ of the flea burrows in the dust of the floor. Flea-afflicted dogs should be washed every few days in strong soapsuds, or weak tobacco or petroleum water. No doubt the application of the Persian insect powder—*Pyrethrum roseum*—or a weak solution of carbolic acid would be equally or more efficient.

....Each ant in an ant-hill knows his companions. Mr. Darwin several times carried ants from one hill to another, inhabited apparently by tens of thousands of ants; but the strangers were invariably detected and killed. Thinking that there might be a family odor by which they were recognized, he put some ants from a very large nest into a bottle strongly perfumed with assafœtida, and restored them after 24 hours. At first they were threatened by their companions, but soon recognized and allowed to pass.

....Five young men in Berlin lately made an agreement, for a wager, to see who of them could keep awake for a whole week. They all held out for about five days and a half, by drinking largely of strong coffee and keeping up a constant round of active exercises and exciting amusements. At the end of that time two of them yielded to drowsiness; a third soon fell asleep while riding, tumbled from his saddle and broke his arm; a fourth was attacked by severe sickness, and compelled to retire from the list; the fifth held out to the end, but lost twenty-five pounds of flesh in winning the wager. Long ago, Frederick the Great and Voltaire made a similar experiment, making use of the same stimulant of strong coffee, but they did not succeed in driving away sleep more than four days.

....Drs. Bergman and Schmiedeberg, of Germany, describe a crystalline substance, which they call the "sulphate of sepsin," obtained from putrefying materials. It is exceedingly poisonous in its action, and they believe it to be the source of the poisonous effects of substances undergoing such decomposition. The least inoculation, by the scratch of a knife used in dissection, or by the bite of a fly which has been feeding on putrid meat, has been known to produce death. These chemists injected a solution containing less than two-tenths of a grain of the sepsin into the veins of two dogs. Vomiting and a bloody diarrhœa were immediately induced. If this is the poisonous principle, of course the late theory, which refers the cause to the multiplication of the fungi of the poison, is incorrect.

....The *American Entomologist* says that it does not hurt bugs to stick pins through them. It is the confinement, and not the wound, which the insect objects to.

Our Young Folks.

SNOW.

BY G. H. BARNES

See how the snow, the pearly snow,
Is falling to the land;
Like white-wing'd sea-birds settling down
Upon the ocean strand:
Look up and watch the feathery flakes
Float from the drifting cloud;
How busily their countless hands
Are weaving Earth a shroud;

Until the snow, the fleecy snow,
Has covered hills and vales,
And hid the withered leaves that fell
In bleak November's gales!
And only where the whispering pine
O'erspreads his tent of green
Do the crimson partridge-berries shine,
And mosses show their sheen.

The downy snow, the deepening snow,
Has buried all the seeds,
The acorns and the hickory nuts,
On which the squirrel feeds;
And hungry crows, from tree to tree,
In quest of scanty food,
Awake to their discordant notes
The echoes of the wood.

From bough to bough, scattering the snow,
The red-cap tree-peck flies,
Starting the hare from her ferny bed
With a fear in her round eyes;
And his rattling thump on hollow stump
Of beech or basswood tree
Makes all the white hills loudly ring
To the noisy reveille.

The chilling snow has checked the flow
Of many a laughing brook,
That trilled a song as it danced along
Of home in a shady nook:
But the school-boy laughs, and sings, and shouts,
And waves his fur cap high,
For the snow has laid a crystal track
On which his sled can fly!

O who may know the worth of snow,
If not the boy of ten?
Give him his sled and a sleety path,
Away with book and pen!
The snow's his joy in early morn,
At noon a fresh delight,
A pleasure lasting all the day,
He dreams of snow by night!

And when the snow, the drifted snow,
Has softened in the sun,
Then crusted in the keen north wind,
So hard a deer might run
Upon its smooth and shining breast,
Nor pierce with pointed hoof
The polished armor of the hills,
Close-linked and battle-proof,

How swiftly fro, on the crackling snow,
A merry, red-cheek'd crew
Of shouting lads and laughing girls
Will cut the breezes through:
"Hurrah! hurrah!" What care they then
For whistling wind or storm?
While the bounding blood in youthful veins
Is quick, and strong, and warm!

They knew that when Granpa said 'No' it was final; and so would every other little boy and girl, if grandpas and grandmas did not forget, and humor them.

"Round and round they flew, trampling the pearmains and pippins, rustling the fallen leaves, frightening the robins and doves, startling the rabbits and chasing the sheep. Rooster Lucifer crowed, and Mistress Biddy Cochin China cackled, the old turkey gobbled, and they all sped out of the way when the fairy horses and their riders came round, with prancing feet, and flying hats and aprons, and flourishing whips.

"A merry day they had of it, and no one knows how many miles they ran. From ten to twenty, I am sure."

"Now, Grandma, little three-year-olds running tea miles!"

"Oh! but, Blanche, they had fairy horses, and that would help them along."

"Why, Harry, you know Grandma don't believe in fairy horses."

"Well, I do, Miss Nina. They never could have run ten miles a day if they had not been fairy horses; could they, do you think?'

"There, there! Hear the rest of my story, and see. I forgot to say that, when Ruth blew the horn for dinner, they were in some trouble, for Charley had trod on the tail of Bessy's horse and shortened it by several inches, and Jack had lost every leaf of his scratch. So Uncle Sam, who did the chores, furnished them each a new pony, as good as the first ones, which were put up in the wood-shed and whipped unmercifully when they shied, or baulked, or run at the sight of the washing-machine or grindstone.

"Uncle Sam said they must be kind and gentle to them, as they were only colts. So Charley pulled them some grass, and Mary insisted in bringing the water and giving each a big apple.

"After dinner and Mary's nap, they rode again—went to Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and New Orleans, and returned; and about five o'clock in the afternoon they saw Grandfather and old Roc coming, and away they galloped to meet them and open the gate into the lane.

"'Good evening, Mr. Dana, and good evening, Miss Dana,' said Grandpa, as they stood holding the gate open. 'Which way are you traveling this evening?'

"'Going up to town, to buy Uncle Sam a new pipe and some tobacco,' was the ready answer.

"'Well, hurry along, or your fairy horses will not get there by sundown.'

"'Yes, they will. They can run two-forty,' said little Mary, repeating a phrase she had just caught from the boys.

"The carriage drove on to the house, and the two fairy horsemen passed on up the road, the great farm-gate swung to, and the little ones were not thought of until the red October sun sunk beneath the horizon, and the new moon hung her crescent over the hill-tops of crimson and gold.

"'Ruth, where are the children?' asked Grandma.

"'Laws! if ever I know. Cantering and galloping they've been the livelong day. I 'spect they're out with Uncle Sam, feeding the sheep?'

"'Here's Uncle Sam now. Where are the children?'

"'Dear, goodness me! I don't know. I didn't see 'em after I see 'em scampering to meet you. That Charley is a master feller, I tell you. He'll do something, if he lives. They've rode them stick-horses as if they'd been live colts the hull day. I don't believe Silver Heels and Light Foot could have kept up with 'em.'

"Loud calls were made; but no children answered. Ben was sent up to Mr. Hill's to look for them. All the way, a half-mile, he trudged, calling 'Charley,' 'Mary'; but there was no answer. Dick Hill had seen them riding by; but thought they had gone home. Ben ran back; and now all were alarmed. Night was already upon them. The little crescent moon had gone down, clouds overspread the sky, and mutterings of a coming storm were heard, [illegible] do.

"'Where are my dear children?' cried Grandmother Bruce, in great terror.

"'Uncle Sam,' said Grandfather Bruce, 'hitch Selim to the double-seated carriage. Mother, throw in a blanket and pillow with the robes. Those children have gone 'up to town.' I told them to hurry, or they would not get there till sundown; and they thought, as they generally do, that I meant what they said. Don't worry, wife. They have gone to the store; and Mr. White has taken them home, given them their supper, and they are sound asleep by this time.'

"'Whoa!' cried Uncle Sam. 'Stand still! you fiery varmint. Beats all, them children! I told them they must go up to town and get me a pipe and some tobacco. Now, Mr. Bruce, hold hard, for that Selim ain't like any other critter, human nor animal, 'cept that boy Charley. He's all go, and no stop.'

"'Let him go, Uncle Sam. There! All's right. I'll be back with the little runaways by nine o'clock.'

"So sure was Grandfather Bruce that he would find them that he put his famous trotter, Selim, into his best paces; and, being an experienced driver, he was soon near the town, when he met a swift rider.

"'Ho! ho! Judge Bruce,' drawing up, 'After the babies?'

"'Yes, sir.'

"'All safe and sound; asleep at Mr. White's. I was just going down to tell you.'

"'Thank you.' And Grandfather drew out his handkerchief, and wiped something out of his eyes, while his heartfelt thanksgiving went up unspoken to the Author of all good that his dear ones were safe from harm.

"It had taken one hour exactly for the little fairy horses to canter 'up to town.' Tired they were; but full of spirit and energy, and quite determined to go back again. Charlie boasted that he knew the way, and wasn't one bit afraid of the dark. But good Mrs. White told them they must have some supper, and took off their shoes and stockings, and washed their faces and hands and tired little feet, and sat them at the table. Little Mary fell fast asleep with her mouth full. Charley stared his eyes open till supper was over, and then he sank upon the sofa; and, with his blue eyes half closed, asked to have his horses well fed and cared for, and Uncle Sam's pipe and tobacco laid upon the shelf, for he must start early in the morning. And then the weary little body drooped into slumber.

"Grandfather arranged the cushions, blankets, and pillows in nice order; put the sleepers in, without waking them; and let Selim take his own gait home. Before nine o'clock Grandmother kissed her darlings and put them to bed.

"And that's the end of the story of the *fairy horses.*"

REMARKABLE WORKS.—Nineveh was 15 miles long, 8 wide, and 40 round, with a wall 100 feet high and thick enough for three chariots abreast. Babylon was 50 miles within the walls, which were 75 feet thick, 300 feet high, and had 100 brazen gates. The Temple of Diana, at Ephesus, was 420 feet to the support of the roof. It was a hundred years in building. The largest of the Pyramids is 481 feet high and 653 on the sides; its base covers 11 acres. The stones are about 30 feet in length, and the lavers are 308. It employed 330,000 men in building. The Labyrinth, in Egypt, contains 300 chambers and 12 halls. Thebes, in Egypt, presents ruins 27 miles round and 100 gates. Carthage was 23 miles round. Athens was 25 miles round, and contained 350,000 citizens and 400,000 slaves. The Temple of Delphes was so rich in donations that it was plundered of 5500,000, and Nero carried away from it 200 statues. The walls of Rome were 13 miles round.

Sabbath-schools.

LAST April the Sunday-school of the Fifth-avenue Congregational church, in this city, numbered 88 members; now it has on its roll 260.

....Mr. Wm. Lawrence teaches an adult Bible-class in the Second Baptist church, Chicago, the enrolled membership of which is 300, with an average attendance of 173. Fifty-six from this class joined the church in one year.

....A large gathering of Sunday-school teachers was held in Berlin the last of December. Some four hundred were present, including Dr. Dorner and others of the clergy. The Sunday-school is not yet naturalized in Prussia, and the relation which the pastors shall bear to it is not settled. The Sunday-schools had their magnificent Christmas trees.

....The Biddle Market Mission-school of St. Lou's had an average attendance in 1868 of 817 scholars, the average for 1867 being 650. There were 1,357 families visited, and the large increase is due to this labor. Six scholars were present every Sabbath; and four repeated on every Sabbath the lesson of eight verses. They have no Sunday-school library. They began the year with a debt of over $4,000, and ended it with a debt of a little over $900.

....In the very vigorous and earnest but no less bigoted and sectarian *Macedonian*, an official paper which knows much more about Baptists than it does about Christians, we find the following specimen, which we impale for our readers. Was it written by the same Secretary Warren who not long ago said he would never contribute a cent for any but *Baptist* missions?

"UNION SCHOOLS.—Our members are usually engaged in Union Sabbath-schools in different districts of the county. Missionary.

"NOTE.—We are not clear about these Union schools. Where do you find in the New Testament anything except old-fashioned, apostolic Baptist Church Bible schools? Our Board desire you to transform those schools as far as you can wisely and successfully."

....During two years past the Rev. S. Stevenson, missionary of the American Sunday-school Union, has organized 147 new Sunday-schools in Arkansas. Of these, 81 were among the whites, numbering 473 teachers and 2,929 scholars; 66 were among the freedmen, with 202 teachers and 1,926 scholars. To these schools the American Sunday-school Union donated books worth $1,074 83. These results show the power of adaptation of this society in this important field. A missionary in Wisconsin reports 32 new schools organized during the year, having 188 teachers and 1,238 scholars. A new church is soon to be organized out of some of the youngest of them. He also reports 63 old schools visited and aided, having 705 teachers and 4,788 scholars. He gave in books $137 30, and sold $493 89. He says one-fifth of the population of Wisconsin is German, one-seventh is Scandinavian. These welcome our efforts, especially the last. Rome claims 100,000 of the children of Wisconsin. The masses of the population are in the rural districts. In 1865, of 1,000,000, scarcely 200,000 were in all the cities, towns, and villages of 500 and upward.

....It was in 1784 that Robert Raikes published his account of Sabbath-schools. The same year John Wesley said of them, in his journal for July 18th: "I find these schools springing up wherever I go. Perhaps God may have a deeper end therein than men are aware of. Who knows but some of these schools may be nurseries for Christians!" During the years immediately following Wesley and his friends did what they could to encourage them, and it is interesting to observe the growth of his confidence in them. They were introduced into London by Rowland Hill, in 1786, and in the same year they were begun in the United States by Francis Asbury, a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Wesley mentions in 1786 that 550 children were taught in the Sunday-school of his society at Bolton; and the next year he found here 800, taught by 80 members. Richard Rodda, one of his preachers, records that in 1786 he formed a Sunday-school in Chester, and soon had nearly 700 "under regular masters." Wesley wrote to him in the beginning of 1787: "I am glad you have taken in hand that blessed work of setting up Sunday-schools in Chester. It seems these will be one great means of reviving religion throughout the nation." The year before his death, John Wesley wrote to Charles Atmore, an itinerant preacher: "I am glad you have set up Sunday-schools at Newcastle. *This is one of the best institutions which has been seen in Europe for some centuries.*" It is an interesting fact in regard to the visit of John Wesley to America that, in the years 1736-37, forty years before Raikes's first Sabbath-school, he set apart a portion of the Sabbath afternoon to meet the children belonging to his mission in Savannah, Ga., for catechetical and scriptural instruction. Small children, as well as large, were among his pupils, and his manner was very engaging.

Temperance.

A WOMAN in Ridgeway, Lenawee County, Michigan, lately sued a saloon-keeper of the place to recover money spent by her husband for liquor; and, after an exciting trial, a verdict of $65 was rendered in her favor.

....A Washington dispatch, describing the midnight session of the Senate, says: "The senators who have sometimes been censured for intoxication were all in their places, sober enough to be members of Wilson's temperance society."

...."The Four Pillars of Temperance," by John W. Vinton, is the latest issue of the National Temperance Society. The quartette of supports are "Reason," "Science," "Scripture," and "Experience"—all of which most certainly counsel the avoidance of excess in the most emphatic terms.

....The friends of temperance in Providence are to have a series of public meetings on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. At the opening meeting, on Sunday evening, Hon. A. C. Barstow presided, and Rev. J. D. Fulton, of Boston, gave a discourse.

....Happiness for Trask, the tobacco reformer! The Wisconsin assembly passed a resolution, on January 26th, "to promote good morals by prohibiting the chewing of tobacco in the assembly chamber."

....Col. Forney, who is making a tour through the Southern States, speaks approvingly of the temperance and sobriety of the people of North Carolina. He says he has not seen a drunken man since he entered the state.

....A friend sends us this "word from the Bay State": "Gentlemen who control church affairs, settling and unsettling ministers, are not always 'discerners of spirits.' One of our wealthy metropolitan churches parted with a minister some years since who was a devotee to smoke, and they have been trying candidates ever since. They actually declined hearing one preacher any further because some member of the committee, by some 'bird of the air,' was given to understand that the brother now and then reveled in smoke; and now, (believe it who can!) it is stated on reliable authority they have actually settled a pastor, on a princely salary, who is a mighty user of tobacco, as 'Nimrod was a mighty hunter.'"

....Gerrit Smith, by request of a gentleman in England, has addressed a printed letter to John Stuart Mill, criticising his attitude toward the temperance cause. He makes a strong argument in favor of the right and duty of governments to shut up the dram-shops, and we are curious to see how Mr. Mill will meet that argument.

....Alarmed at the rapid growth of drunkenness in the capital, with the poverty and crime which are its inseparable concomitants, the Russian Government has resolved upon four sweeping measures of restriction: 1. To increase the price of corn-brandy three-fold. 2. To allow no tavern in any main thoroughfare. 3. To make every tavern an inn, paying the customary hotel due of £70. 4. To allow no tavern within eighty yards of a government office. This last proviso is, perhaps, the most restrictive of them all, for government offices in the Russian capital are plentiful as grocers' shops in London. These new regulations come into operation on the first day of the new year, and hundreds of taverns will be closed. It will involve a large loss of revenue, and the source of many a great personage's wealth will be dried up.

....Matt. H. Carpenter, senator-elect, delivered a brilliant and powerful oration in favor of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks, at Music Hall, Milwaukee, Wis., on the evening of the 4th inst., taking for his text the following words: "Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend." Mr. Blossom, the speaker who followed Mr. Carpenter, among other good things, said that he never really appreciated the merits of cold water until about one month ago. There had been a great senatorial canvass, and it had been conducted, both on the part of the candidate and of his most active supporters, on the total abstinence principle; and he (the speaker) thought that, if cold water could secure the election to the United States Senate of so great and good a man as he who had first addressed them, it must be a very good thing indeed.

Foreign Gleanings.

GUSTAVE DORÉ is said to be at work upon an illustrated edition of Tom Hood's poems.

....Lamartine is said to be writing a new poem, which is to be his literary testament. It is to be called "Forgetfulness."

....A new book by Mr. Gladstone, the English prime minister, is announced. It is to be called "Juventus Mundi: Gods and Men of the Greek Historic Age."

....Only one of the persons convicted of the assassination of the Governor of Burgos has been sentenced to death, and it is not certain whether that sentence will be carried out. The Cortes will decide.

....The correspondent of the *New York Tribune* in Cuba describes the insurrection there as literally undermining the whole island. The letters of this correspondent have been remarkably able and interesting.

....The English lord chamberlain has addressed a circular to the managers of the London theaters, condemning the growing indecency of costume, or no-costume, so prevalent now among the ballet-girls and other female performers.

....It is stated that, in the event of the Duke of Aosta being chosen by the Spanish Cortes as a candidate for the throne, the king and the government of Italy are resolved not to consent to the candidature. This would be good sense on the part of the Italian king and government.

....The *Imperial Review*, a London weekly paper, which started into life with considerable pretension and some ability as an organ of Toryism, on what is called in England the "blood-and-entrails" basis, has just died. Toryism in England has made many attempts to support a high-class weekly paper, but has always failed.

....The street traffic in London is becoming so great that it is proposed to construct tunnels at certain crossings of some of the principal thoroughfares, in order to enable people to get over safely and quickly. Cannot New York take a hint? Broadway, near the Astor House, is often nearly as bad as the worst part of Cheapside.

....The Duke d'Aumale, son of Louis Philippe, is said to have become a regular contributor to the columns of the *London Times*. No one who remembers the brilliant piece of invective which a few years ago he flung in the shape of a pamphlet at the head of Prince Napoleon will doubt his capacity for political literature.

....Mr. Miall, the distinguished English Nonconformist leader, who failed to get into Parliament for Bradford at the general elections, is likely to have a seat, after all. The person who obtained a majority of the votes has just been unseated by a decision of the judges, on the ground that some of his agents were guilty of corrupt practices.

....The Canton of Uri, we read in the foreign papers, is about to erect a statue to William Tell, in the town of Altorf, where the hero is supposed to have shot the apple off his son's head. Decidedly it is well to keep up the memory of a great patriot; but Altorf is a very little village, and it has already one huge statue of William Tell. If another be put in, the inhabitants will have to get out.

....Some of the French papers are full of accounts of a scheme said to be favored by the Spanish Provisional Government for sending an expedition into Mexico, under the command of Santa Anna, to establish an empire there, with a new prince from Europe as emperor. It is not perhaps wonderful that Paris papers should publish such absurd nonsense; but it is wonderful that any New York paper should attach any importance to it. Yet some of our contemporaries publish it quite gravely.

....Lord Cairns is to be the leader of the English Tory party in the House of Lords, in the place of Lord Malmesbury, who withdraws from the trouble and responsibility of a position for which he was wholly unsuited. Lord Malmesbury is a remarkably dull man, even for a peer. Lord Cairns (a North-of-Ireland lawyer, who fought his way up to the peerage) is a man of great talent and one of the best debaters of either house. The only thing against him is his health, which is very weak.

....The ballot has been tried in Manchester by the Liberal party, on a large scale, and found to work very successfully. The object of the experiment was two-fold: first, to select a candidate to be put forward by the Liberals at the election which is expected, and next to see how the system of ballot would work. The arrangements adopted resembled the French plan rather than that of the United States. About two-thirds of the Liberal population of Manchester voted, everything was done in good order and quiet, and the success of the system was complete.

....The protocol agreed to at the Paris Conference condemns Greece for its conduct toward Turkey, and contains the following sentences: "It is beyond doubt that the principles of the law of nations require of Greece, as of all other nations, not to permit the recruitment of bands on its territory, *nor that ships should be armed in its ports* for the purpose of attacking a neighboring state." Only think of the British plenipotentiary approving and signing this declaration! Poor little Greece! See what it is to be small and weak. The British House of Commons cheer for the Alabama—and Greece is condemned for the *Enosis*.

....A petition has been laid before the French Senate asking for the removal of the remains of Louis Philippe from England to France. When Louis Philippe's minister applied to Lord Palmerston for permission to remove the body of Napoleon the First from St. Helena to Paris, the sagacious English statesman smiled significantly, and asked whether the king of the French really wished for the transfer. The ashes of the great Napoleon blew up Louis Philippe's throne. But the present Napoleon need not fear the dead body of the Bourgeois king. Berenger says Louis Philippe, no army reverses his memory. Whatever danger threatens Louis Napoleon, it is not the ghost of Louis Philippe he has to fear.

....Harriett Martineau was for many years a regular contributor to the London *Daily News*. Although living in seclusion, in her cottage at Ambleside, near beautiful Windermere Lake, in very weakly health, and so deaf as to be compelled constantly to use an ear-trumpet, this remarkable woman kept closely up with all the political movements of the day at home and abroad, and wrote some of the best articles which appeared in the English press in defense of the Northern cause during the American civil war. Her obituary notices of distinguished persons were a special and remarkable feature of the *Daily News*. She knew every eminent man and woman in England, from Lyndhurst, Brougham, and Miss Mitford, to the youngest politician and author of the day; and, when any one of mark was removed by death, his portrait, painted with wonderful skill and fidelity, was sure to be found immediately in the *Daily News*. These sketches have now been collected into a volume, and are published by a London house. They will doubtless be reproduced in this country. Miss Martineau, it is understood, now lays down at last her busy, brilliant pen. No English man or woman living worked more zealously and ably for the Northern cause during its time of trial than did the venerable Harriett Martineau.

Pebbles.

A PORTICAL contributor sends us a production, and naively adds: "Did burns ever rite anything like this?" According to the best of our knowledge and ability he did not. —*Zanesville (O.) Signal.*

....A French mayor, who wished to be very amiable toward a duchess, who was oneeyed, in making out her passport, wrote as follows: "Eyes—dark, beautiful, soft, full of expression—one of them being absent."

....An Englishman relates that he recently dined in Nevada with an editor of that commonwealth, who inquired after the health of Tennyson and "Thomas T. Carlyle," remarking: "Them men ken sling ink, they ken."

....The old riddle, "Why is a bald man's head like paradise?" being rehearsed to Lord Derby, with its answer, "Because it's a bright and shining place, where there's no parting or dyeing," the Earl added: "And, thank goodness, where there are no more Whigs"!

....The *Richmond Dispatch* says: "Those who cannot see that negro suffrage is a settled question are like a stage-driver who exclaimed to his colleagues, the other day: 'Boys, Confederick money will be good yet; *Kribby Smith* is still a-fittin' beyond the Mississippi, and he'll bring it up!'"

....A boy was sent by his mother to saw some stove-wood out of railroad-ties. Going out doors shortly after, she found the youth sitting on the saw-horse, with head down. The mother asked her hopeful son why he didn't keep at his work. The boy replied thus: "My dear mother, I find it hard, very hard to sever old ties."

...."Papa," said Tommy, the other day, "is it a sin to chance one's mind?" "Well, no, my boy; why do you ask?" "Oh, you know," replied the five-year-old, "I was to be a doctor." "Oh! yes, I remember," said the father. "What then?" "Well, if you please, I think now that I'd rather be a candy store!"

...."Friend Mallaby, I am pleased that thee has got such a fine organ in thy church." "But," said the clergyman, "I thought you were strongly opposed to having an organ in a church?" "Was I am," said Friend Obadiah; "but then, if thee will worship the Lord with machinery, I would like thee to have a first-rate instrument."

....In order to amuse the children on a Sabbath, a lady was engaged in reading from the Bible the story of David and Goliah; and, coming to that passage in which Goliah so boastingly and defiantly dared the young stripling, a little chap, almost in his first trousers, said: "Sister, skip that, skip that; he's blowing! I want to know who licked!"

....When Dr. Spring went to New Haven to get Prof. Stuart to go to Andover, he called on Dr. Taylor, with the salutation: "I have come for Moses Stuart; we want him to become a professor in our new seminary at Andover." "You can't have him," was the reply; "he can't be spared." "I know that," was the response; "that's the reason I have come for him. We have plenty of men who can be spared; but those men won't make good professors at Andover."

....During a concert in the Boston Music Hall, recently, when the organist was "exhibiting the full power of the instrument," a lady was enthusiastically conversing with her neighbor about her household arrangements. "She suited the action of her voice to those of the organ, but 'rocaoned without her host' this time. The organist made a sudden transition from '*fff*' to '*pianissimo*,' without giving the lady warning; consequently the audience were somewhat amused at being informed by her, in a shout, that 'we fried ours in butter!'"

....The following laughable mixture of two articles—one concerning a preacher, the other about the freaks of a mad dog—occurred in a paper the other day: "Reverend James Thompson, rector of St. Andrew's church, preached to a large concourse of people on Sunday last. This was his last sermon. In a few weeks he will bid farewell to his congregation, as his physician advised him to cross the Atlantic for his health. He exhorted his brethren and sisters, and after the conclusion of a prayer took a whim to cut up some frantic freaks. He ran up Trinity street to the college. At this stage of the proceedings he was seized by a couple of boys, who tied a tin kettle to his tail, and he again started. A great crowd collected, and for a time there was a grand scene of running and confusion. After a long race he was finally shot by a policeman."

Selections.

LOVE LIGHTENS LABOR.

A goop wife rose from her bed one morn,
And thought with a nervous dread
Of the piles of clothes to be washed, and more
Than a dozen mouths to be fed.
There's the meals to get for the men in the field
And the children to fix away
To school, and the milk to be skimmed and churned;
And all to be done this day.

It had rained in the night, and all the wood
Was wet as it could be;
There were puddings and pies to bake, besides
And the day was hot, and her aching head
Throbbed wearily as she said:
"If maidens but knew what good wives know,
They would be in no haste to wed!"

"Jennie, what do you think I told Ben
Brown?"
Called the farmer from the well;
And a flush crept up to his bronzed brow,
And his eyes half bashfully fell.
"It was this," he said—and, coming near,
He smiled, and, stooping down,
Kissed the rosy cheek—"'Twas this: that you were the best
And the dearest wife in town!"

The farmer went back to the field, and the wife,
In a smiling and absent way,
Sang snatches of tender little songs
She'd not sung for many a day.
And the pain in her head was gone, and the clothes
Were white as the foam of the sea;
Her bread was light, and her butter was sweet
And as golden as it could be.

"Just think," the children all called in a breath,
"Tom Wood has run off to sea!
He wouldn't, I know, if he only had
As happy a home as we."
The night came down, and the good wife smiled
To herself, as she softly said:
"'Tis so sweet to labor for those we love,
It's not strange that maids will wed!"

THE IDEAL WOMAN.

I CONCEIVE the ideal woman to be a person in whom the sentiments predominate over the intellect: the heart leading the head, the affections the reason; and wherever that combination appears, the type, externally, will be feminine. Every man in whom the affections sway the intellect, by ever so little, impresses us as a woman: is a woman, essentially, in his composition. Every soul in whom the intellect sways the sentiments is masculine: is essentially a man; nor without such discrimination can we comprehend the personality of man or woman. This is not saying anything disparaging to the intellect: it is uplifting the intellect, because the highest intellect is ideal. The logical intellect is a subordinate intellect. The logical intellect deals with sensuous facts and inferences. The ideal intellect deals with the immaterial, creative, because everything pre-exists in its type, is first in the idea, before it appears to the senses. The naturalist follows the reverse order of creation. He merely analyzes what has already been composed. The idealist conceives, creates: the perception follows conception. Woman divines. Her logic is swift; it darts to the conclusion; she sees it intuitively, while fumbling reason follows after; perhaps prides itself as superior, because it can tell a little more about its passage. But the best women know too much to meddle with these coarse weapons. Theirs is the great way: they stoop to conquer; they persuade. Argument is the resort of inferior minds. Logic is apt to be sophistical, not convincing. Whoever states a thing intuitively—and no one states well unless he does—needs not to prove it. It is proved already, because self-evident, and we immediately pronounce it true. The ideal woman rules by persuasion, which is the highest of all possible instrumentalities. What is Christianity but a great persuasion—a conviction by an appeal to the instincts of the human heart? The Christ put his questions so deeply that the questioner felt at once that to answer his question was answering his own; there was no more to be said about it, because it brought conviction. And that is the feminine way—the method of all superior minds.
—*A. Bronson Alcott, in "The Radical."*

Commercial Notices.

OFFICE and Manufactory of B. T. BABBITT, Nos. 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 72, and 74 Washington street, New York City. Caution to dealers and consumers!

An inferior article of Soap is being thrust upon the market, bearing BRAND and LABEL similar to my own, and well calculated to deceive the unsuspecting.

Beware of imitations! Do not purchase box or bar unless you see B. T. BABBITT plainly marked upon both. Look well that the initials B. T. are prefixed to my name. None other is genuine, or equal in quality. B. T. BABBITT.

FACTS FOR THE LADIES.—I have used my Wheeler & Wilson Sewing-Machine for the last twelve years, and it had already been in use two years when I bought it. I have had it doing all kinds of shop-work, from seven in the morning until six and sometimes ten o'clock at night, continually going. I have never sent it for repairs, and I think it is now in as good order as when it came out of your store, and I would not exchange it for any you have. Staten Island. HENRY WRIGHT.

S. P. Q. R. were the inspiring characters inscribed upon the conquering banners of the heroic Romans; but D. P. S. are characters which delight our modern nations. They are the initials for DAVID'S PRIZE SOAP, which we are told is sold at every respectable grocer's, and is warranted to be the greatest dirt eradicator known to modern science. The manufacturer has *forty years'* experience in the making of laundry soaps, and *he* ought to know what good soap is by this time. Try it; you'll like it.

THE purest and sweetest Cod Liver Oil in the world, manufactured from fresh, healthy livers, upon the sea-shore; it is perfectly pure and sweet. Patients who have once taken it can take no other. Ask for "Hazard and Caswell's Cod Liver Oil," manufactured by CASWELL, HAZARD & Co., New York. Sold by all druggists.

PROF. BLOT'S Soups.—Tomato, Pea, Julienne, Vermicelli, It. Paste Consommé, Mock Turtle, Ox Tail, Green Turtle, Terrapin, Tomato Sauce and Catsup. Sold by Grocers and Provision Dealers. Depot 2 Vesey St., N. Y.

COLGATE AND COMPANY'S AROMATIC VEGETABLE TOILET SOAP is the best for toilet use. It is composed of healing ingredients; and, being combined with Glycerine, is particularly adapted to the delicate skin of ladies and infants.

"CRAMPTON BROTHERS" IMPERIAL LAUNDRY SOAP contains a large percentage of *Vegetable Oil*, is warranted fully equal to the best imported Castile soap, and at the same time possesses all the washing and cleansing properties of the celebrated French and German laundry soaps. Manufactory 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 Rutgers Place, and 33 and 35 Jefferson Street. Office 84 Front Street, New York.

WHOLESALE COUNTRY PRODUCE MARKET.

Reported expressly for THE INDEPENDENT, by David W. Lewis, Commission Merchant, No. 62 Pearl street.

Commission on Butter, Eggs, Poultry, etc., is 3 per ct. Flour, Grain etc., 2½ per cent.
Marking-plates furnished when desired.

GOLD ranged at 135¼@136½.

BUTTER.—Receipts for the week were 7,681 packages. Receipts were nearly 2,000 packages less than last week, and there was increased firmness and better tone to the market, and an advance of 1 to 3 cts. per pound on all but better grades. There were sales of fine Butter at 48@50 cts., prime firkin dairies at 42@45 cts., choice Welsh at same figures, and fairish qualities at neighborhood of 40 cts. The demand is almost wholly for dairy Butter, and the supply has to come chiefly from this state. We quote:

Fine Fall Butter	48 @50
Fine Long Dairies	45 @48
Good to Choice Dairies	42 @45
do. do. Fall Butter	42 @45
White Wisconsin Butter	40 @45
Low grades Common State Butter	30 @35
do. do. Western Butter	33 @35
Roll Butter, in bbls. or boxes	35 @38

CHEESE.—Receipts for the week were 1,337 boxes. The market is firmer, and prices advanced to 22 cts. The stock is light, hardly sufficient for the prospective wants of the trade for the next few weeks. The business is confined to peddling off the end of the stock at outside rates. We quote:

Factory Cheese, firsts	22 @ —
do. do. seconds	20 @21
Private Dairies Cheese, firsts	21 @22
do. do. do. seconds	18 @20
Late Ends of Cheese	15 @17

EGGS.—Receipts have been large and demand good. Lent began on the 10th inst., and an increased demand is looked for next week. Limed are doing better. We quote:

Jersey, State, and Pennsylvania, per doz	28 @29
Western, per doz.	25 @26
Limed Eggs, (loss off), per dozen	18 @22
Egg Oats, per bushel	50 @60

POULTRY.—There has been but little in this week; and, with moderate demand, prices have advanced and the market closes firm, with a tendency to outside rates—some stock arriving from the West. State and frozen has been sold at less prices than our quotations. We quote:

Turkeys, per lb	20 @23
Chickens, "	16 @20
Ducks, "	18 @25
Geese, "	12 @15

GAME.—There is good demand for Grouse and Quail at late advance in price. Partridges are very scarce and high. Our quotations are for sound birds. Soft stock sells for about half price. We quote:

Partridges, per pair	$1 50@ —
Quail, per dozen	3 50@4 00
Sprouse, trapped, per pair	1 00@1 25
Rabbits, per pair	40@ 50
Woodcock, per brace	75@ 1 00
Whole Deer	10@ 13

BEANS.—The supply here is large and prices are lower for both Medlums and Marrows. We quote:

Marrows, per bush. 62 lbs	$4 00@4 25
Kidneys " "	4 00@4 50
Mediums " "	3 25@3 50
Peas " "	3 40@3 50
Pea " "	3 00@3 25

BREADSTUFFS is in good demand and higher. We quote 43@46 cts. for Western and Southern.

TALLOW.—The supply has been large, demand rather light, and prices have declined. We quote at 11@11¼.

BUCKWHEAT is about the same as last week, say $3 50@4 per 100 lbs.

DRIED FRUITS.—Apples continue in good demand and are wanted at our quotations. The balance of the list is quiet but firm. We quote:

Apples, State, sliced	14 @16
Apples, Stole	11 @12½
do. Ohio	11 @12½
do. Southern, new	10 @11
Dried Peaches, peeled, good to prime	25 @29
do. do. do. fair to good	22 @25
do. do. unpeeled, halves	15 @16½
do. do. do. quarters	11½@12½
Blackberries, per lb	20 @22
Cherries, pitted, per lb	40 @42
Plums	30 @31

SEEDS are quiet and firm. We quote:

Clover, per lb	15@ 17½
Flax Seed, per bushel	$2 60@ 2 70
Timothy	$3 00@ 3 75

ASHES.—Pots are in good demand and steady. Pearls are quiet. We quote:

Pots	$7 12½@ —
Pearls	9 00@9 12½

HOGS.—The market has been quiet since our last and prices lower. We quote:

Jersey and State, light	16 @17
do. heavy	15½@16
Western	14 @15½

APPLES.—There are a good many lots offering, and prices favor the buyer. We quote:

Western Mixed Lots, prime	$4 00@4 50
do. poor to fair	3 50@ 4 00
Selected, per bbl	4 50@ 4 75
River Mixed Lots	3 00@ 4 00

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gives particular attention to the Commission Sale of FALL BUTTER. Also CHEESE, EGGS, BEANS, etc.

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IMPURITIES OF THE BLOOD AND ALL CHRONIC DISEASES

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aged 14 years, in six months, on
LAMB FAMILY KNITTING MACHINE,
besides going to school. Send for her testimonial and samples. Chicopee Falls, Mass.

PRICES CURRENT.

REPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE INDEPENDENT.

ASHES—DUTY: 2½ ℔ ct. ℔'s
Pot, 1st sort 100 ℔ ..... $ 8 00
Pearl, 1st sort 9 12½
CANDLES—DUTY: Wax, 5 ℔ ct.; Tallow, 2½ ℔ ct.
Sperm, ℔ b ..... a—45
Do. 1st ℔ ..... 48 a—
Do. 2d ℔ ..... 46 a—
Patent Sperm ..... 50 a—
Adam's Wax ..... 21 a—22
Adam's, State ..... a—
COAL—DUTY: 40c. and 25% ad val.
Liv. Orr'ston ..... a—
Sidney ..... a—
Pictou ..... a—
Nanaimo ..... a—
Cannel ..... a—
COFFEE—DUTY: 5c. ℔'s.
Java, wh'e, Whgold 31 ..... a13½
Jamaica ..... 14½a— 15½
Laguayra ..... 14½a— 17
Maracaibo ..... 15 a— 18
St. Dom ordsh ..... 13½a— 14
COPPER—DUTY: Pig and Bar 2½c. and Sheathing 3c. ℔'s.
Pig ..... 23 a—
Sheathing, old .....

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The Independent.

THEODORE TILTON, EDITOR.
HENRY C. BOWEN,
PUBLISHER AND PROPRIETOR.

New York, February 18th, 1869.

THE LATEST DISGRACE.

IF the legislature of Georgia, instead of having had a majority of white members, had had a majority of black; and if this black majority had expelled the white minority, for no other reason than prejudice against color; is it likely that the electoral vote of that unreconstructed state would have been counted by Congress?

No! The Democratic party would have protested; the Conservative Republicans would have re-echoed the protest; and the vote would have been set aside by all parties as a mingled impertinence and outrage.

The law which provides for the counting of electoral votes says, "No vote objected to shall be counted, except by the concurrent votes of the two houses." Under this law, and with a view to secure the rejection of the electoral vote of Georgia, the House of Representatives (by 150 to 41) decided that Georgia had not complied with the conditions necessary to validate her vote. Now, therefore, under the law which declared that no electoral vote should be counted if either of the two houses of Congress objected, and after the resolution of objection by the House of Representatives, the extraordinary proceedings by which, amid a parliamentary bedlam, the disputed vote was finally received, ought to be characterized as tyrannous, high-handed, and shameless. Congress has thus publicly invited every Southern state to make haste and expel every negro from its legislature. Georgia, by her infamous exclusion of the chief gentlemen who ever sat in her civil councils, voluntarily put herself as much out of the Union as South Carolina did a few years before, when she fired at Fort Sumter. The expulsion was itself a rebellion. It was the overt act by which a state sought to defy the laws of the United States: a treasonable act which Congress has now declared to be, not null and void, but audacious and triumphant.

Why may not Mississippi, catching the contagion of the example, immediately proceed to oust her negro legislators in the same villainous way?

Imagine, now, the indignation which would have made the whole nation hot, if a dozen or twenty white men (instead of black) had been denied their seats in a legislative body to which they were freely elected by a loyal constituency. How many mass-meetings would have been called in all sections of the country! How the press would have suddenly wakened from its customary sleep! How the pulpit would once again have remembered that it had something to say to the outside world! How the whole swelling tide of public opinion would have surged like the sea under a storm!

Let the white man be smitten ever so gently on the cheek, and a universal cry for redress rends the air; but let the negro be trodden down into the very dust, and there is a horrible acquiescence in the victim's fate.

Where is that even-handed Justice which, borrowing its attributes from God himself, knows how to be "no respecter of persons"? Where is that Public Virtue which is able to say, with the Apostle, "Who is offended and I burn not?" Where is that Statesmanship which has taught itself the maxim, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them"? Neither this Justice, nor this Virtue, nor this Statesmanship resides in the American Congress.

WHICH?

THE following are the two propositions for amending the United States Constitution—one originating in the House, the other in the Senate:

House Amendment.

ARTICLE XV.—SECTION 1. The right of any citizen of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state by reason of race, color, or previous condition of slavery of any citizen or class of citizens of the United States.

SEC. 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce by appropriate legislation the provisions of this article.

Senate Amendment.

ART. XV. No discrimination shall be made in the United States, among the citizens of the United States, in the exercise of the elective franchise, or in the right to hold office in any state on account of race, color, nativity, property, education, or creed.

ART. XVI. The second clause, first section, second article of the Constitution of the United States, shall be amended to read as follows:

Each state shall appoint, by a vote of the people thereof qualified to vote for representatives in Congress, a number of electors equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in the Congress; but no senator, or representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector, and the Congress shall have power to prescribe the manner in which such electors shall be chosen by the people.

Each of these propositions is better than the other in one important respect.

The Senate's amendment is distinguished by a comprehensive liberality, a statesmanlike breadth, and a wide-sweeping application of the doctrine of freedom and equality, which entitles it to rank (like Abraham Lincoln's speech at Gettysburgh) among the noblest utterances in our political history. If adopted, this amendment will be the jewel of our Constitution, and will sparkle on the stretched forefinger of all time.

On the other hand, the penalties attached to the House's proposition ought not to be omitted from the final form of the adopted amendment. These are a necessary constituent of any useful enactment touching the negro's rights. A "glittering generality" is always a pretty thing; but it sometimes accomplishes no other purpose than simply to glitter. For instance, the Constitution has always solemnly guaranteed freedom of speech in all parts of the land; and yet, in spite of this high-sounding provision, there was no freedom of speech for a space of forty years in one-half the states! This example is sufficient to warn us against trusting to a mere abstract statement of the negro's or any other citizen's rights.

All honor and praise to the heart-quickening declaration that no American citizen is hereafter to be disfranchised on account of color, or race, or education, or property, or creed; but we are anxious that this declaration, when once made by the Constitution, should be enforced by the laws. Otherwise the amendment will amend nothing; it will "keep the word of promise to the ear, but break it to the hope."

If we are compelled to choose between the two amendments, as they now stand, we altogether prefer the Senate's; but we would be glad to see the best features of each incorporated into a new form, benignant with all the catholicity of the one and formidable with all the penalties of the other.

THE ENGLISH RITUALISTS.

THE Ritualist movement in England has reached a crisis. It cannot stand where it is. If it does not suddenly and completely collapse—which it is not at all likely to do—it must conquer the Church of England, or go over to the Church of Rome. The final decision in the Mackonochie case declares the symbolic performances, the kneelings, the prostrations, and the lightings of candles, to be unlawful. Any clergyman who does these things any more offends against the law and may be punished. Of course, it is quite probable that many are even now offending with perfect impunity. The Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, passed amid the frantic acclamations of the British public, to prevent Roman Catholic prelates from calling themselves Archbishops of Westminster, and Tuam, etc., was never obeyed and was never enforced in one single instance. English law seldom does more in matters of religion than show its teeth. It rarely attempts to bite. But the Ritualistic practices are declared to be unlawful, and it is an awkward position for the clergymen of a state church to find themselves transgressing state law. Therefore, the Ritualists have held great public meetings in London and elsewhere, to decide upon a course of action. The more fiery were for broadly defying the law—their voice, like that of Milton's fallen angel, was still for open war—of wiles more inexpert they boasted not. But the more cautious spirits suggested a way out of the difficulty. The law lords have condemned only the practices—not the doctrine they are intended to symbolize. It is not necessary to secede or make war for mere symbols. A case is now pending which will call into question the actual doctrine. Wait until that is decided—and then! Meantime, let every one act on his own responsibility, each for himself, without concert. The moment for united and final action has not yet come.

This is not, perhaps, a very heroic or even a very straightforward way out of the difficulty. The Ritualists justify their practices because they are symbols of a certain doctrine. The Privy Council condemns them because they are symbols of that doctrine. It seems, then, rather a disingenuous piece of policy to say: "Our practices only are condemned, no condemnation has yet been pronounced upon our doctrine; we need not disturb ourselves." Such, however, is practically the position now taken up by the Ritualists; and they have at least gained time to consider their future course. The decision on the doctrine must come at last, or the question must be put away as incapable of judicial decision. In the latter case the Ritualists will have conquered—the Church of England will be theirs. If the decision be against them, they must secede or conquer the church in spite of the law, carry the church with them (state alliance and all) or sever the church from the state. The Rev. Mr. Mackonochie, the hero of the movement, has publicly declared against secession. It is "in the Church of England," he says, that his brethren "must win or lose"; and he clamors for the severance of church and state, declaring the legal connection to be a "terrible spiritual adultery." One cannot help remembering what a cry was raised among the orthodox and the endowed, some few years ago, when John Bright denounced the union of church and state as an "adulterous intercourse." Now a church clergyman adopts the very words, and publicly declares that the general sentiment of all enlightened men will justify him in using them.

It is obvious that England is on the verge of a great religious convulsion. Perhaps it may help some of the readers of THE INDEPENDENT to understand its nature and its prospects if we say a few words about what we may call the social strength of Ritualism, leaving the doctrinal question wholly aside. Ritualism is, socially, a movement to compel the priests of the church once more to do the duties of priests. It is a reaction against the apathy, the perfunctory and mechanical routine into which the State Church of England had naturally fallen. Some few years ago, the English State Church had fallen asleep in its comfortable seat. It was slumbering like Dogberry's watchmen. The clergymen preached their routine and monotonous sermons to dull and unawakened ears once every Sunday, and that was the whole of the religious work of the week. The chapels of the Nonconformists, the Dissenters, the Unitarians were always crowded by earnest, attentive, wide-awake congregations; nobody ever saw a Roman Catholic chapel that had a seat to spare; the churches of the state clergy were half-empty and all but lifeless. Only where some fashionable preacher commanded congregations by the mere charm of his mellifluous elocution and his white hands, or some bolsterous Low Church preacher drew crowds to hear him thunder against the Pope and roar for new penal laws against the Roman Catholics—only in such cases as these did the churches of the state show any signs of vitality. Suddenly there came a reaction. There were men in the church who could not accept this life of apathy and monotony. They insisted that they were priests, and must do the work of priests. Naturally they turned their eyes toward the Roman Catholic Church. Now that church has been guilty of many crimes. It has persecuted, it has corrupted, it has scourged and branded free inquiry; it has sometimes proscribed the very Bible. But one thing it has never done—it has never gone to sleep and let its people live their lives or die their deaths unheeded. It has often been a bad mother; it never has wholly abdicated the place of a mother. So much the worse for its children, very often; it would be well for the world if the Roman Church had been as slumberous and heedless as the English Church lately came to be. But the Roman Church was a church of priests, doing priests' duties; and the Ritualists insisted that the English Church, the true and only catholic church, from which Romanism was but a secession and a heresy, must come back to her original mission and be likewise a church of priests. So they instituted attractive and gorgeous ceremonials; they founded schools; they formed orders of young men, sisterhoods of earnest women; they kept up close and constant visitations among the poor and the sick of their flocks; they gave advice, and alms, and medicines; they had deaconesses and sisters of mercy. It must be owned that they took to oral confessions, among the rest of their innovations. Whatever their follies, or faults, or absurdities, there was in them an earnest desire to reach the hearts of their people and to enlist in the work of the church the services of every man and woman in their congregations. Their churches became crowded. Women and young men were specially enthusiastic in the work. The Ritualist leaders had the art, in which the Romanists were always so happy, of finding out what every follower could do, and setting him or her to do it. This is no fancy picture. We could point to many churches in London, which a few years ago were nothing more than the receptacles wherein a few groups of apathetic people heard a dull sermon every Sunday, but are now the centers of an energetic, enthusiastic religious activity, which, if it expresses itself foolishly in genuflexions and candlelightings, expresses itself wisely in the clothing of the naked, the feeding of the hungry, and the teaching of the ignorant. The Ritualists found a coffin; they changed it into a cradle.

This is what the Ritualists have done in their practical work. They have awakened their people. Ritualism, apart from its doctrinal meaning, is a revival. It is a reaction against sinecurism and pluralist slumber. It is—unconsciously, perhaps, so far—a protest against a state church. Only in this sense has the movement any real significance for the outer world. Probably it will, before long, proclaim itself openly and unitedly as the instrument of the severance of church and state. If it does this, it will, whatever its errors, prove itself a public benefactor and an agent of progress. If it secedes, and blends with the Church of Rome, it will simply be absorbed—it will be swallowed up, and there will be an end of it. Nobody, within or without, can reform the Church of Rome. Ritualism will have gone far to build up for itself a vindication in history, if only it succeeds in enabling its own church to reform by severing it from its unnatural union with the state.

RELIGIOUS AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION.

A CONVENTION has been held lately in Columbus, Ohio, attended by one hundred persons, including quite a number of Presbyterian clergymen, especially of the "Reformed" branch, to promote an amendment of the Constitution of the United States, in such a way that it shall contain a formal recognition of the truth and divine authority of the Christian religion. An association was formed for the State of Ohio, whose object is to secure the proposed amendment. The proceedings have been sent to us in a slip, which we are, of course, expected to notice.

We fully assent to the fundamental principles put forth by the convention, that "civil government is a divine institution," and that "nations are bound by the moral law" and "ought to worship God"—that is, to acknowledge his supreme authority as the Creator and Judge of all men. This is done, as we understand the case, by every nation that employs the solemnity of an oath. Our people and their government have acknowledged the supreme providence of God, and testified their respect for the Christian religion in many appropriate and spontaneous ways, as by suspending business on the Lord's Day, by holding days of humiliation and prayer and other days of thanksgiving and praise, and by endeavoring to promote the observance of the principles of humanity and justice by other nations. We have failed to discern any probable benefits to arise from the incorporation of a Christian confession of faith in the letter of the Constitution.

It would not constitute any man a Christian who is not one now. It would not add to the authority of the Christian religion. It would not show that a majority or any other specified proportion of the people are real Christians. It would not bind the conscience or control the faith or conduct of those who are not Christians. Nor would it curtail the civil rights of those non-Christians, save by a palpable injustice. Let us do all we can, as individuals, to bring other individuals to accept the Gospel as their rule of life. In exact proportion as we succeed in this we shall bring all the acts and all the influence of the National Government into conformity with the laws of Christ, which is the thing we really want.

The Constitution of the United States is not a creed or a summary of the general principles of just government. It prescribes the mode in which the people of the United States wish their government to be carried on, the distribution of functions among different officials, the manner of filling various offices, the means of holding those officers to a just accountability, and the restrictions and limitations which we have thought necessary to impose upon their several powers. It is a practical and not a theoretical document. It defines neither the principles of republicanism, the doctrines of religion, nor the inherent rights of man. All this is left to the operation of the popular intelligence and will. If the people are right, they will make the government right. And thus the actual working of the government will be the true index to the virtue and intelligence of the people.

THE SPANISH CORTES.

"I AM about to address you as a free people," said Grattan to his countrymen, when he spoke from the benches of the short-lived Irish Parliament—"ages have passed away since you could be called by such a name." And he closed that passage of his noble speech with the words, applied to the independence of his country, *"Esto perpetua!"* Marshal Serrano is not much of an orator, and is not likely to be inspired, under any conceivable circumstances, by lofty emotion; or he might have addressed the Constituent Cortes of Spain, last Thursday, in language breathing a similar spirit. He addressed the representatives of a free people. Ages, indeed, have rolled away since Spain, with all the fierce, indomitable pride of her national independence, could boast even the shadow and semblance of freedom at home. Two months ago, the general fear among patriotic Spaniards, the general belief among those who hoped little for Spain, was that the Cortes would never meet, that the Provisional Government would take care to keep all the power in their own hands, and that sooner or later would come a struggle destined to end in a military dictatorship or a counter-revolution. It is something, at least, to know that the Cortes have met, and met apparently with the *prestige* of popular enthusiasm surrounding them. Serrano, as nominal chief of the Provisional Government, delivered an address, the most important points of which—we may pass over the formal, congratulatory rhetoric suitable to the occasion—were the announcement that the Cortes would be expected to confirm the fundamental principles of radical liberalism which had been adopted by the Provisional Government in regard to religion, the press, and education; and the intimation that slavery is to be abolished in the Antilles, "without precipitation and without compromising the prosperity" of the colonies. It will be as well, perhaps, to wait until we learn the exact meaning of these phrases before we rejoice over the prospects of abolition. Most of the leaders of the Southern Confederacy say now that they always contemplated setting the negroes free; but that they meant to do it "without precipitation." Some people's ideas of precipitancy are perplexing and annoying. "Now" is with them always precipitation. Perhaps, however, while the Spanish Government are waiting for the proper time to emancipate the slaves without precipitation, Cuba may have precipitately emancipated herself, slaves and all.

Except so far as regards Cuba, the prospect seems hopeful in Spain, and calls for congratulation. There was some confusion created during Serrano's address by the conflicting shouts of enthusiastic partisans, many voices sending forth *vivas* for Gen. Prim, some for a republic, some for a monarchy. Serrano showed more promptness and dexterity than might have been expected of one always more remarkable for good looks and good humor than for brains. He demanded a general *viva* for the sovereignty of the Cortes; and the contending ghosts of monarchy and republic were laid, for the hour, at least, in the sea of popular plaudits which broke over the assemblage. The opening, of course, contained no announcement of the programme of the Provisional Government with regard to the political system of the future. It has since, however, been stated that Ferdinand, ex-king of Portugal, is to be proposed as sovereign of Spain. If Prim and his colleagues have a king in their pocket, whom they are to produce at the last moment, this will indeed be rather a pitiful result of the revolution. Better by far to prolong the rule of the Provisional Government under the control of the Cortes, and see into what fruit the Spanish revolution will finally ripen. Better, even, a temporary dictatorship, than to bring out into light at this moment some princely obscurity—some royal Jack-in-the-box, some king of hereditary shreds and patches tacked together for the occasion—and set him up on a throne which he has neither won nor inherited. Ferdinand of Portugal is an honest, respectably not incapable man; but Spain has surely no need of him. The one thing Spain wants is self-government; that is, a political system thrilling her from end to end, enlisting the interests, calling up the mental activity of all the Spanish people, making every Spaniard conscious of his right to be a citizen and a politician. To set up a puppet king, and govern by a dictatorship, or a coterie behind the throne, will utterly frustrate this. Let it be remembered that the constitution of Spain under Isabella was not, to all appearance, a bad constitution. It looked well enough. There was a tolerable suffrage, a representative chamber, a senate, partly elect of the elect, and so on. But the influence of court and priests, and the soldiers whose gain it was to serve the interests of court and priests, smothered the breathing of the constitution, and made it at last a corpse.

Let us hope things will turn out better this time, and that the Provisional Government and the Cortes will rise to the dignity of the situation, and have courage enough for the great responsibility which rests on them. *Esto perpetua*, when spoken by Grattan, were words of fatal omen. Let us hope that they may be addressed under better auspices to the liberty of Spain.

CAN WE AFFORD PENNY POSTAGE?

THERE are two ways of answering this question. One is, that a nation like the United States cannot afford to do without it. The greatest possible facilities for intercourse, through the mails of every district and neighborhood of the country with every other, is absolutely indispensable to the unification of the diversified populations into one homogeneous people, so absolutely fraternized together that all traces of hostility may disappear, and all of every race, and tribe, and sect shall recognize every other as fellow-countrymen. The value of the mail as an influence of national assimilation, and the increased efficacy imparted by penny postage, are very imperfectly apprehended in this country. More than twenty-five years ago, that born political philosopher, Richard Cobden, declared that the system of penny postage, then only four years old, had rendered a bloody revolution in England impracticable, through the facility which it afforded for the people to become intelligent of their rights, and to combine for obtaining all needed reforms. The present condition of England, so unexpectedly gained, and so easily, is proof that Cobden was a prophet.

This country was worse divided, and its parts more estranged than England; and we could, therefore, still less afford to be without that assimilating influence of penny postage. The case was urged upon the attention of Congress, in 1845, by some who had seen the working of Sir Rowland Hill's system, and had diligently studied the philosophy out of which it sprang. But Congress would not look at it, and, therefore, could not comprehend it, but botched an awkward reduction of the postage rate to five cents, with double postage for all distances beyond a thousand miles. It will be admitted by all who study the subject that, if penny postage had been established by Congress, in the true spirit, and carried out, with "all the improvements," through the Southern States, the Rebellion would have been impossible. It only needed a little more intelligence, and a little more patriotism a little more generally diffused, to have dissolved the enchantments of the followers of Calhoun over the Southern people. That this was foreseen is shown by the solid front with which the Southern representatives in Congress, of all parties, resisted even the paltry reduction of postage to five cents in 1845. It was fought for days by the compact South, and finally carried with a high-hand by the solid North, the first clean and open division between the two sections.

It was but a half-way measure, and worked so unsatisfactorily that in four years it became necessary to take another step. THE INDEPENDENT did its duty in the case, not only by elaborate editorial articles, but by personal labors at Washington, in addressing committees, visiting members, and furnishing statistical and other materials for reports and speeches, which were ready to be made in favor of a straightforward adoption of Sir Rowland Hill's system of penny postage in all its essential and beneficent features. Just as it was on the point of being brought forward, some merchants in this city, mostly English, directed their agent at Washington, an Englishman, to advise a three-cent rate, and the congressmen jumped at anything a little below the line of exact right; and so it was settled, and the country has suffered for it ever since. It is impossible to make any system yield the benefits of penny postage, unless it begins with penny postage. For twenty years the country has been striving to get the grapes from the thorn-tree, and is everywhere defeated.

Now, a country like this cannot afford to be left permanently behind in the progress of civilization, by persisting in the use of clumsy tools and hard labor for that which others do by complete and self-acting machinery. We have partially suppressed the Rebellion; but we have many other questions to settle, and we ought to be able to keep ahead of all the world in the increase and diffusion of knowledge. And we have important reforms looming up in the future, in which it is essential that the people should be able to understand each other's minds, and carry out their own views, in spite of the political rings at Washington and Albany. We cannot afford to live much longer without having, not only as good a system of postage as any other country, but the very best that human ingenuity can contrive, with all the advantages derived from experience. A country that has built the Pacific Railroad can well afford the means of introducing a perfected penny postage, but cannot afford to do without it.

But there is still another answer to our question. We can afford it, because we are already paying, under the present awkwardness, all that it would cost to run the best possible scheme of postage. Having abandoned the tradition of keeping up high rates in order to make the post-office support itself, Congress has just appropriated five millions of dollars extra, to meet the expenses of our present system for the current year. Nobody complains of this, because it is seen to be an absolute necessity for the country to restore a vigorous and general system of mails throughout the growing West and the impoverished and lately rebellious South, at whatever expense may be required. The country can afford to run mails in every direction, to encourage settlements, to allay jealousies, to rekindle patriotic sentiments.

Now, all that is needed to make all this business plain is just to consider, that the expense is incurred by running the mails with letters few or many, and that the carrying of additional letters and papers makes a very little addition to the general expense. A mail route which carries a thousand letters and papers daily, yielding say twenty dollars, could carry a hundred thousand with a trifling additional cost, which would yield two thousand dollars of daily income. Consequently, every contrivance which goes to increase the number of letters goes to lessen the average cost per letter. This is the key to Sir Rowland Hill's system; and therefore he bent every effort to devise plans for increasing the number of letters. And he has increased the number of letters sent in a year, from eighty-two and a half millions to seven hundred and seventy-five millions—above two millions every day. That is the true standard of success.

SANE AND INSANE.

WE said not long since, in treating of this subject, that we would return to it and make a suggestion how the possibility of sane persons being shut up in mad-houses might be prevented. It is not likely that such persons are ever long detained in any well-regulated asylum, as there can be no motive for such an offense, excepting the bribery of the superintendent and of all his assistants at all fit for their situations, at the risk of ruin of character and of personal punishment. But that sane persons have been confined in asylums by unprincipled doctors, at the instigation of villainous relations, there can be no question. Besides the case of Commodore Meade, which we suppose must be placed in this category, as he was discharged on *habeas corpus*, we have heard lately of an instance of a young widow of fortune who was similarly entreated through the machinations of some next of kin who wished to have the handling of her property. We believe this case was kept out of the papers, and we have alluded to it merely to show that such things can be and should be made impossible.

It does not seem to us that any material difficulty will be found in doing this, whenever the public is sufficiently awake to the need to demand the remedy. Innocent persons, accused or suspected of insanity, certainly should have as much protection against incarceration as guilty persons accused or suspected of crime. No one can be committed to jail for crime without a preliminary examination into the facts of the case by magistrates provided for the purpose by law and presumed to have peculiar fitness for the investigation. At least as much care should be taken to guard us all from the unpleasant necessity of being obliged to prove a negative in order to keep the control of our actions and property. Some tribunal of mixed law and medicine should be provided to pass on every case of suspected insanity. A lawyer of the rank and experience which every judge should have might preside over a commission composed, besides himself, of two physicians, men of character and standing, which should make each of them *omni suspicione major*, who should be charged with the duty of examining every person whom it is proposed to commit to an insane asylum. In a vast majority of cases the mere inspection of the party and a very brief course of evidence would be all that would be needed. In cases of greater complexity, the decision of such a board would satisfy all reasonable persons that mental disease did actually exist, though under obscure conditions, which might mislead a casual observer.

What is needed to remove the apprehensions and jealousies so apt to arise under the existing dispensation is the assurance that the patient has been examined by competent and incorruptible judges. The arrangement might be to have one learned lawyer for a certain territorial district, not elected, but nominated by the governor, to be the responsible judge of the law and the evidence, while a considerable number of the most eminent of the medical faculty should be commissioned as authorized assesors of the judge of insanity, any two of them being a quorum. These might be selected in each case by lot out of the whole number, as juries are now, so as to remove all suspicion of unfairness. If an obscure case of insanity were relegated to the hospital, after a careful examination by Judge Pierrepont, or Judge Ingraham, or Judge Emott, assisted by Dr. Mott, Dr. Willard Parker, Dr. Carnochan, Dr. Crane, or Dr. Barker, and men of similar eminence, the public mind and that of friends and acquaintances would be satisfied that there was at least no unfair play. It is the power which the law now gives, in all states, we believe, to physicians in general to give the certificate necessary for admission that makes abuses certainly possible, and very often suspected where they do not exist. There are unfortunately too many in the ranks of medicine, as of law, who are approachable by bribes or other corrupt influence. What is wanted to quiet suspicions and doubts is well-known and established *character*—worth more to its possessors, even from a money point of view, than any possible money-bribe could be. This is what we need in every public officer, and all our struggles for municipal and political reforms are precisely in this direction. We are very sure that we can make a beginning in the particular of which we have been treating, without much trouble, to great general advantage and at no great expense.

A NEW CHURCH IN EMBRYO.

WHISPERS are again afloat that a new church organization is likely to grow out of the widening breach between the two opposite parties in the Episcopal Communion. We give the readier credit to the rumor from the fact that the movement, so far as known, is confined to a few resolute spirits, who have ceased to look for leadership to those who have long been prominent as Low Churchmen, and who have, by ample (we will not say happy) experience, become pretty well weaned from any strong attachment to the Episcopate. That the TYNGS, and DYERS, and VINTONS, and SCHENCKS will have nothing to do with any plan for separation is certainly evident. It is not clear, moreover, that a single bishop will favor the new enterprise. At the same time, it is perfectly plain that a reform of the alleged abuses in the Episcopal Church is utterly hopeless. They grow out of its organic life. So far as clerical numbers and influence are concerned, it is drifting further and further from its Protestant moorings; it is disowning in some quarters its Protestant traditions and principles, and is looking for unity rather with the Eastern and Western churches than with the evangelical denominations around it. It is, we suppose, this painful consideration, the hopelessness of its improvement, and the belief that it does not and cannot adequately accomplish the work of the Gospel, that have decided the minds of those who now advocate a new organization, if such really be the case.

While the Episcopal Church has features which are admirable, and which adapt it to a sphere of usefulness hardly occupied by any other religious body, it has also characteristics which will always hinder its utility, and which will continue to be the fruitful occasion of strife and offense. For ourselves, we have but little care for the forms that distinguish different religious bodies, and a low opinion generally of ecclesiastical machinery. The faith in the "unity of the spirit and the bond of peace" is our chief concern. Still, preferences in externals are allowable, and in the work of the Gospel it is highly important to consult the methods most appropriate to the field of operation. Among the signs of the times are an evident tendency toward liturgical worship, a revolt from narrow dogmas and a rigid ecclesiasticism, more general unanimity on essentials, and less emphasis on the externals of religion.

A church, as those think who advocate a reform of the Episcopal branch, to meet the demand of the times, should make no exclusive claims, but plant itself unmistakably on the fundamental and catholic principles of the Gospel. It should be free from even the suspicion of sacerdotalism. With a liturgical service, it should give ample liberty, in the use of extemporaneous forms, to adapt its worship to special occasions and circumstances. Its Episcopate or presidency should be strongly restrained, and its legislative functions be equally distributed among the laity and clergy. Not to make too fine a point, it should be, it is affirmed, what the Episcopal Church would be if its Romanizing germs were eliminated, if divested of all exclusive pretensions, if made flexible for all practical Christian work, and if sympathetic with the heart of Protestant Christendom and adapted to the times in which we live.

Such a church, it is thought, would not only embrace the more active and influential portion of the Episcopal communion as it now stands, but would draw largely from the best minds of other denominations, while it would meet the wants of very many at present dissatisfied with any existing Christian organization.

When, or where, or by what special action this rumored Reformed Church will be established, of course, we cannot predict. We regard the event as very likely, and perhaps not far off. Circumstances must of necessity control the plans for its organization, but very significant indications already point to it, and we shall watch these, as time passes, with peculiar interest.

Editorial Notes.

ON the same page in which the *Round Table* convicts the *Southern Review* of careless proof-reading it notices "Col. *Higgins's* interesting romance of *Malbone*."

....Two conventions of friends of Woman's Suffrage were held in Chicago last week. The larger and more influential of the two had the presence and aid of Rev. Edward Beecher, D.D., Mrs. Henry B. Stanton, Rev. Robert Collyer, Mrs. Livermore, and Susan B. Anthony. Probably "Penholder" will give us some account of it.

....The legislature of Georgia has resolved to refer the question of the eligibility of negroes to office under the new constitution of the state to the supreme court of the state, with the tacit understanding that it will submit to the decision. There is some doubt whether the court will take cognizance of the question; but, if it does, it will probably decide in favor of the negro's equality with the white man in the right to hold office.

....The question of Woman's Suffrage is before the legislature of Rhode Island. On Tuesday of last week the two houses gave a hearing to the advocates of the measure, when the representatives' hall was densely crowded. Mrs. Elizabeth B. Chace, of Valley Falls, read a brief but cogent argument; and then Miss Fairbanks, of Providence, read an article prepared by Mrs. Paulina W. Davis, who has just gone to Florida. Lucy Stone presented the closing appeal, which is said to have made a powerful impression.

....No doubt some of the political managers are sorely disappointed that General Grant does not seek their counsel, or at least give them an opportunity to offer their advice as to the construction of his cabinet. But we believe the great mass of the people approve his course as marked out by his speech to the Congressional Committee, and will give him their confidence until they find him doing something inconsistent with his duty to the country and with the principles on which he was elected. The Washington correspondent of *The Times* says:

"General Grant, however, is not so reluctant in talking about men named for cabinet positions as many suppose; but he chooses a very discreet set of men for his listeners. He remarked in conversation at his own house on Saturday evening, in commenting upon some speculation of the newspapers, that there would be no two men in the cabinet from the same state, nor any man who did not give a thorough support to the Government during the war, nor any man who had not thoroughly sympathized with the spirit that had preserved the Government since the war."

....We welcome to our columns this week that eminent minister and educator, Rev. E. O. Haven, D.D., president of the University of Michigan. His article, on the first page, reveals at once the breadth of his thought, the catholicity of his spirit, and his freedom from the exclusiveness of sectarism. We wonder if Dr. Mahan will make haste to brand him as infidel for saying, "It is about as satisfactory proof of Christian character as man can give to his fellowmen to be earnestly and habitually devoted to doing good. One must revolutionize the idea of Christ given in the Gospels to suppose that the Judge can place on his left hand any who visit the sick, clothe the naked, or improve the condition of the suffering." This is the very truth of God, as attested by Christ; but for all that it is rank heresy in the estimation of our modern scribes and pharisees, who insist that the only way to heaven lies through the acceptance of their creeds. As if a man with the soundest creed might not be a practical atheist; and as if one whose creed is full of error might not, in spite of that, be at heart and in daily practice a Christian.

....For at least half a dozen times during the last year our readers must have noticed in their daily paper telegrams dated at the Observatory of Michigan University, and announcing the discovery by Professor Watson of minor planets. The capture of six planets in a single year is an unprecedented exploit in the history of the science, and entitles this young astronomer not only to the facetious title of "Planet-bagger," which he bears at home, but to the many distinctions which are lavished upon him both in this country and in Europe. We have taken pains to procure a concise record of Prof. Watson's discoveries:

Oct. 20, 1857, Aglaia (discovered a little earlier by Luther).
Sept. 14, 1863, Eurynome.
Oct. 8, 1865, Io (discovered earlier by Peters).
Aug. 24, 1867, Minerva.
Sept. 6, 1867, Aurora.
July, 11, 1868, Hecate.
Aug. 15, 1868, Helena.
Sept. 7, 1868, (not named).
Sept. 13, 1868, (not named).
Sept. 16, 1868, (not named).
Oct. 10, 1868, (not named).

COMETS.

April 23, 1859, Comet I, 1859.
Jan. 9, 1864, Comet VI, 1863.

....In the course of the Senate debate upon the Suffrage Amendment, Hon. Henry Wilson made a speech, in which he uttered these noble sentiments:

"It is, indeed, painful to listen, as we have listened during this sitting of the Senate, to the utterance of sentiments so inhuman and unchristian, sentiments so dishonoring to human nature. S r, we have just been told by the senator from Minnesota [Mr. Norton], who was once with us, but never of us, that the negro, no matter what may be his wealth, his intelligence, or his personal character, is doomed to be excluded from the society of the fashionable and respectable. The hod-carrier, he tells us, may hope to amass wealth, to ride in his carriage, to be received into fashionable society, to dine others and be dined himself. He can hope, too, he tells us, that his children may be cultured and refined. But the black man is without hope for himself and his children. Fashionable society, carriages, and dinners! Surely these are mighty themes for the consideration of American statesmen. Because frivolity and fashion put their ban upon the black man, be his character ever so pure, or his intelligence ever so great, statesmen in this Christian land of republican institutions must deny to him civil and political rights and privileges. Because social life has put and continues to put its brand of exclusion upon the black man, it is therefore the duty of statesmanship to maintain by class legislation the abhorrent doctrine of caste in this Christian Republic. This is the argument, the logic, the position of senators. This argument, this logic, this position insults reason, outrages humanity, and dishonors the civilization of the age. Sir, it is your duty, and my duty, and the duty of any senator of the United States, to enforce and maintain the liberties, rights, and privileges of every citizen of the United States. The poorer he is the greater is our obligation; the more society averts its face from him, the more God bids us to stand by, shield, and protect him. Sir, I am grateful to know that during these fourteen years you and I have given no votes and uttered no words in this chamber to degrade or dishonor our brother man. We have given no votes here we would recall; many of the friends around us have given no votes and made no speeches they would recall. However much we may be stained or scarred by sins, we hope to go to our final account without the fear of adding recorded against us the crime of having betrayed the cause of the weak, the poor, or the lowly. Whatever may be our failings, our sins of omission or commission, we hope that the oppressed and smitten children with skins not colored like our own will not, before the bar of Almighty God, arraign or reproach us.

"To the senator who tells us society is forever closed against the black man, and therefore the ballot-box should be, I say that I know black men of culture and character who are received into society that it is a honor to be an honor for him to enter. I know gentlemen and ladies of culture and refinement—gentlemen and ladies who have been received into the most cultivated circles of Europe and America, and who honor that society quite as much as they are honored by it, whose houses are open to that noble specimen of physical, intellectual, and moral power, Frederick Douglas, a gentleman who is every inch a man. I assure the senator from Minnesota that I

'Enter on my list of friends'

Frederick Douglas, and feel honored by his friendship. The cordial reception given by the Vice-President-elect and his bride at one of their receptions, so thronged by noble men and women, was honorable alike to Mr. Colfax and the great Republican party that made him Vice-President. As I witnessed that manly greeting, I felt it was but the dawn of a better era, when intellectual and moral excellence would conquer the prejudices of class and caste."

....Gen. Grant was officially notified on Saturday of his election as President of the United States. The joint committee of the two houses, composed of Senator Morton and Representatives Wilson, of Iowa, and Pruyn, of New York, waited upon him at his headquarters, and Senator Morton addressed him as follows:

"*General:*—The Joint Committee appointed by the two houses of Congress visit you this morning to notify you officially that you have been elected President of the United States for the term of four years from the 4th of March next. The great majority of your countrymen hail your election with delight, while even those who did not support you at the polls entertain for you the highest confidence and respect. The friends of our country and the friends of liberty throughout the world rejoice at your elevation to the presidency, and all believe that you will bring to the performance of your duty unalloyed patriotism, inflexible integrity, great powers of intellect and all the high qualities that enabled you to achieve such distinguished success in another sphere of duty. They cherish full faith in your ability and virtue, entertain the highest hopes of your success, and that during your administration the work of reconstruction will be completed and the wounds of civil war healed, and that our country will take a new departure in growth, progress, and prosperity."

Gen. Grant replied as follows:

"I can promise the Committee that it will be my endeavor to call around me as assistants such men only as I think will carry out the principles which you have said the country desires to see successful—economy, retrenchment, faithful collection of the revenue and payment of the public debt. If I should fail in my first choice, I shall not at any time hesitate to make a second or even a third trial, with the concurrence of the Senate, who have the confirming power, and should just as soon remove one of my own appointees as the appointee of my predecessor. It would make no difference.

"There is one matter that I might properly speak of here, and that is the selection of a cabinet. I have always felt that it would be rather indelicate to announce or even to consult with the gentlemen whom I thought of inviting to positions in my cabinet before the official declaration of the result of the election was made, although I presumed that there was no doubt about what that declaration would be. But after consideration I have come to the conclusion that there is not a man in the country who could be invited to a place in the cabinet without friends of some other gentleman making an effort to secure the position; not that there would be any objection to the party named, but that there would be others whom they had set their hearts upon having in the place. I can tell that from the great number of requests which come to me in writing and otherwise, for this particular person or that one, from different sets and delegations. If announced in advance, efforts would be made to change my determination; and therefore I have come to the conclusion not to announce whom I am going to invite to seats in the cabinet until I send in their names to the Senate for confirmation. If I say anything to them about it

ganization ought to hold a first rank in the regard of the churches.

....Mr. Martineau, the most widely-known Unitarian in England, expresses the conviction that Unitarians in that country, "brought up under a cold discipline and training," have grown into a sympathy with more fervid expressions of Christian life; while those educated as Orthodox, without consciously changing their convictions, have, by reading Unitarian books, been brought into a closer sympathy with them.

....A Mrs. Mason, of Farmer Village, N. Y., an invalid (consumptive) joined the Baptist church there last month. "She was lifted gently into the baptistery in her chair, and buried with Christ in baptism. As she was raised from the water, she exclaimed: 'Blessed Jesus, I thank thee for the strength to be here!' She rode out the three following days feeling better than for weeks before; but on Monday morning she suddenly fell asleep in Jesus."

....A girl in Kentucky, possessed of devils, has been brought to Cincinnati, where the sisters of St. Elizabeth Hospital have been trying upon her the effects of a bit of the true Cross, which they possess. It threw her into convulsions, but the devils were not exorcised. The attempt to take her into the church was a failure. The devils wouldn't go in. But Father Rotter, after considerable effort, got her into the vestry, and into the chapel, and "after some of the spirits had been exorcised" she appeared better.

....The Seventh-day Baptists have 75 churches in the United States. Of these the oldest is that in Newport, founded in 1671. They have 499 members in Hopkinton, R. I.; 415 in Westerly, R. I., 324 in Shiloh, N. J.; 430 in Brookfield, N. Y.; 629 in Alfred, N. Y., where they have a flourishing university; and 872 in Albion, Mich. The total membership of all their churches is 7,129. They have a feebly-supported foreign mission in Shanghai, and propose to raise next year $2,500 for missionary purposes, most of which goes to church-extension at home.

....The American Methodists have been doing what they can to spread their form of Christianity in Germany and the Scandinavian countries. But in this work the Baptists have far exceeded them. In Germany and Switzerland the Methodists have 5,928 members while the Baptists have about 13,000. In Denmark, Norway, and Sweden the Methodists have 709 members, while the remarkably flourishing Baptist mission has 9,139 members, and 216 churches. All but one of the 199 churches in Norway and Sweden have been founded during the last fifteen years.

....During 1868 there were 45 home missionaries on commission among the Congregational churches of New Hampshire; 20 of them but part of a year. They labored with 41 churches and 3 other congregations. These churches are very feeble and averaged less than 40 members each. Indeed, they are and have been for 60 years growing weaker and weaker. The reason is that the old settlements made on hills rather than valleys present little except the instinct of home to tempt the young people to remain in them. The emigrations far exceed the births, and the churches are left composed of aged members. Meanwhile the churches want the highest order of talent in their ministers, and such ministers find much more extensive fields of influence elsewhere. The only practicable cure for these evils is that such churches shall commission their best resident member to be their pastor. The same evils prevail even more considerably in Vermont.

News of the Week.

The Ex-king Ferdinand, of Portugal, has accepted the candidature for the throne of Spain.

The city of Trinidad de Cuba, in the Central Department, has been declared in a state of siege.

A bloody collision recently took place at Swatow, between some of the natives and the sailors belonging to a British ship.

The newly-elected senator from Wisconsin, Hon. Matt. F. Carpenter, is a strong advocate for woman suffrage in that state.

The Kentucky legislature has refused to consider a proposition to admit the testimony of negroes in the courts of that state.

The Spanish Cortes was organized on Sunday last by the choice of Rivero, of the democratic monarchical party, as president.

The President has granted permission to the friends of Harold, who was executed with Azcaraté and Mrs. Surratt, to remove his remains from their first place of interment.

A telegram from London of the 15th says that all the Cretan insurgent chiefs have submitted to the Turks, and that quiet has been restored.

Some friends of Gen. Sherman have purchased, for presentation to him, the house now occupied by Gen. Grant in Washington. The cost was $55,000.

Letters received from our distinguished countryman, George Peabody, represent him in very poor health. He was about going to the German Spas.

Gov. Bullock, of Georgia, vetoed last week the bill passed by the legislature referring the eligibility of negroes to hold office to the Supreme Court.

A delegation has arrived in Washington from the Choctaw Nation, for the purpose of petitioning Congress to admit the Choctaw territory as one of the states of the Union.

Dispatches from London, Feb. 15th, say that advices from Rio Janeiro fully confirm the report of the evacuation of Ascension by Lopez and his flight into the woods.

Caleb Cushing returned last Friday from his Central American mission, after having successfully made a treaty with Columbia for a canal across the Isthmus of Darien.

It is reported from Paris that the real object of the new Greek ambassador, M. Cassintati, to Washington, is to negotiate with Secretary Seward for the sale of one of the islands of the Grecian Archipelago.

California has been visited by the heaviest fall of snow ever known during the past week. The trains on the Central Pacific Railroad were detained several days in the Sierra Nevada Mountains by the snow.

The continuance of the *Congressional Globe* contract ceases with the present Congress; but a new bill has been reported which transfers the printing of the congressional debates to the Government printing-office.

Two deaths occurred in New York recently from the much dreaded disease Trichonosis. There have been eight cases reported from one German boarding-house in Carlisle street, arising from the eating of raw pork.

The loss by the burning of the South College building at Adrian, Michigan, was $20,000, and the insurance but $8,000. An insurance company which did not lose anything by the fire offers to advance the money to rebuild the dormitory.

Major-General James Barnes, formerly chief-engineer of the Western Railroad, died at Springfield, Mass., on Friday last. He was a graduate of West Point, he was colonel of the 18th Massachusetts Volunteers, and rose to the rank of brevet major-general.

The U. S. Supreme Court decided on Monday that contracts made specifically payable in gold cannot be paid with paper, and that, the act making gold and silver legal-tender not having been repealed, there are two kinds of legal-tender, gold and greenbacks.

Five petitions were presented in Congress on Monday, three in the Senate and two in the House, in favor of an amendment to the Constitution for the recognition of Almighty God and the Lord Jesus Christ as the source of all authority in civil government.

The *American Presbyterian* recommends that culprits condemned to be hung should first have chloroform administered to them, since it is the purpose of punishment to remove the offender out of the way, and not to cause pain. It also suggests that *it be introduced into schools when boys are to be flogged.*

It is reported that the election of Carl Schurz to the United State Senate has created great rejoicing in all parts of Germany, and the immigrations from there will greatly increase, in consequence, the ensuing season. If they have many more Carl Schurzes in Germany, let them by all means come.

President Johnson, on Saturday last, attempted to get rid of that troublesome customer, Gen. Kilpatrick, by nominating as his successor in the diplomatic mission to Chili Judge Dent, a brother-in-law of Gen. Grant. But the Senate is not likely to confirm the appointment.

The judiciary committee of the Maine legislature has reported a bill changing the present law of capital punishment, by providing for murder in the second and third degrees; punishment by imprisonment for life may be inflicted if the culprit is recommended to mercy by the jury, while the same punishment is fixed for the third degree. Death is the penalty for murder in the first degree.

President Johnson gives earnest evidence of his intentions to make the most of his time in pardoning convicts. He has already pardoned Doctor Mudd and Sanford Conover. The latter had served but two of the ten years for which he was sentenced to the Albany penitentiary. Doctor Blaisdell has been sent to Sing Sing; but he remonstrated against it, as he was in hourly expectation of receiving the President's pardon.

Mr. Pruyn, of New York, who was the only Democrat on the congressional committee appointed to inform General Grant of his election, took occasion to assure the President-elect of the support of his party, so long as he adhered to his professions; and, because the General did not make any reply to him, the Democratic journals have been chuckling ever since over the prospect of another administration like that of Mr. Johnson.

The news from Cuba increases in interest. General Dulce, finding that his conciliatory measures have only tended to give strength to the revolutionists, has withdrawn his amnesty proclamation, restored the censorship of the press, and resorted to other severe measures which are calculated to give additional bitterness and vigor to the revolutionary party. The first effects of the Captain-General's new measures here has been to send up the price of sugars about three cents a pound.

It appears that immediately after Gen. Grant had received the official announcement of his election as President of the United States he was waited upon by the venerable F. P. Blair, who presented to him Judge Sharkey, Judge Simrall, and Hon. Albert G. Brown, of Mississippi. The object of the visit was to inform the President that they wished that he might appoint the new governor of the state under the reconstruction laws. It is reported that the committee were entirely satisfied with their visit.

The great event of the week is General Grant's speech to the congressional committee who informed him of his election to the presidency. It was much longer than the very brief reply of Mr. Colfax to the same gentlemen, but the chief point of interest was the announcement that he should not make known the names of his cabinet officers until he was prepared to send them to the Senate for confirmation. It is now known, if it were not before, that when General Grant has anything to say he can say it, and say it well.

Publisher's Department.

PREMIUMS.

GOOD PAY FOR LITTLE WORK.

We are receiving hundreds of letters from all quarters thanking us for premiums sent for new subscribers. Some of our friends, we are happy to say, are not satisfied with one *gift* as a reward for their valuable services. They want all our premiums; and soon find that when they begin to work the way is made easy. Indeed, it is a common remark that it is much easier to get subscribers for THE INDEPENDENT than any other paper. It is now *acknowledged* to be by far the most popular religious weekly in the country. Its circulation, therefore, can be extended almost indefinitely. We ask all our subscribers to read the following letter, and then follow the example of its author:

WESLEYVILLE, Erie Co., Pa., } Feb. 11th, 1869. }

HENRY C. BOWEN, Esq.:

Dear Sir:—Please accept for yourself and the gentlemen associated with you the profound acknowledgments of myself and family for your truly magnificent premiums received by us for my efforts in behalf of THE INDEPENDENT. I have received all you promised—viz., "Galaxy," Ritchie's Engraving, Dictionary, "Our Young Folks," and "Six Months at the White House." They are all in the highest sense satisfactory. With many wishes for your prosperity and success, I remain your humble servant,

WM. P. TRIMBLE.

RITCHIE'S ENGRAVING.

"AUTHORS OF THE UNITED STATES."

We are now prepared, with a fresh supply, to fill orders for this celebrated engraving as fast as received. We have already delivered this great premium to nearly *eight hundred* subscribers, and the demand continues unabated. Every mail brings more orders. Specimens are on exhibition at our office, and it is a wonder to all who see them "how such a splendid premium can be *given away* for four subscribers." It is a picture which, in any position, will *always* attract attention; for it contains the faces of many of the ablest and best known Americans. When hung upon the wall, no person can fail to notice and admire it. We are sending them, upon the terms proposed, into every part of the United States and into Canada, also to Europe. We ask our friends in every neighborhood *promptly* to avail themselves of our liberal offer. We positively *guarantee entire satisfaction* in every case, or the money will be refunded and the subscriptions canceled. We believe this engraving to be the most beautiful and most valuable present ever offered by any newspaper for four new subscribers.

CARPENTER'S BOOK.

THE recent great demand for this popular volume has suddenly drained us entirely. We have ordered another large edition, and hope in two weeks they will be delivered to us. In the meantime, our subscribers and friends who have ordered this excellent volume as a premium must exercise patience. Reader, if you have not this book on your center-table, send us the name of one new subscriber, with the money, and we will send it to you as a *present*, postage paid.

WATCHES.—C. O. D.

A RECENT advertisement of the National Watch Company contains an unjust reflection on the C. O. D. Watch business, as conducted by Messrs. Fuller & Co., of this city.

Messrs. Fuller & Co. have advertised in this journal to send Waltham and Elgin Watches to buyers' address C. O. D.

From reliable information, we are satisfied that Messrs. Fuller & Co. are respectable dealers, and that parties may send to them with assurance of getting precisely the goods ordered in each case.

THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY OF BOSTON, by saving the expense of collecting agents, is enabled to give away in its work *all that is given to it.* Economy is its principle. Those who want the *whole amount* of their donations to go for benevolence will find this society's method *just the thing.*

AGENTS WANTED.—One of the best Life Insurance Companies in New York wants active agents in different states. See their advertisement on eighth page of THE INDEPENDENT.

WANTED!

ONE

HUNDRED THOUSAND

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

FOR

The Independent.

The most valuable inducement ever presented in America for SINGLE

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

A new and popular gift, which everybody will want as a reward for

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

EVERY LOYAL FAMILY IN AMERICA

will want this Premium for

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

Grant and Colfax.
Grant and Colfax.
Grant and Colfax.

NEW PREMIUM,

SPLENDID OFFER,

ENGRAVING BY RITCHIE.

We have contracted with RITCHIE, the celebrated Engraver, for a NEW, ORIGINAL, FINE STEEL ENGRAVING of

President GRANT

AND

Vice-President COLFAX,

to be executed and ready for delivery to us, for our exclusive use as premiums, immediately after their

INAUGURATION,

THE

FOURTH OF MARCH.

The engraving of Colfax is already finished, and is pronounced by all who have seen it to be the most

Perfect Likeness

of him ever published.

The engraving of Grant is in hand, and Mr. Ritchie intends to produce a

MASTERPIECE OF ART,

which shall truly and faithfully represent our honorable and greatly-honored

PRESIDENT

as a citizen, in citizen's dress, as he appears at his

INAUGURATION.

The size of each of the steel plates is *fourteen* by *eighteen* inches, and the pasteboard or picture ready for framing *nineteen* by *twenty-four* inches.

These engravings we will warrant to give

PERFECT SATISFACTION

to everybody ordering them, or the money will *positively* be refunded.

They are intended to take the place and entirely supersede the *trashy* pictures now flooding the country. They will be wanted in

EVERY FAMILY,
EVERY PARLOR,
EVERY LIBRARY,
EVERY OFFICE,
EVERY STORE

In the Country.

Both of these splendid premiums offered to all

OLD SUBSCRIBERS,
OLD SUBSCRIBERS,
OLD SUBSCRIBERS,

FOR ONE NEW NAME,

FOR ONE NEW NAME.

We ask every subscriber on our books to send us one new name, with the money ($2 50), when we will forward by mail,

BOTH ENGRAVINGS,
BOTH ENGRAVINGS,

postage paid to any post-office where overland rates are *not* charged, or deliver at our office,

GRANT AND COLFAX,
GRANT AND COLFAX,

For One New Subscriber,
For One New Subscriber.

We believe this the most splendid and valuable present ever made for

SINGLE SUBSCRIBERS,

SINGLE SUBSCRIBERS.

These Engravings are intended especially as a present to our *Old Subscribers.* To all such, and such only, we will present both of these Engravings for every new name sent us. Those whose names are not on our books will be presented with both of these Engravings for Two New Subscribers and Five Dollars, or One Subscription for two years and Five Dollars. These engravings cannot be had of any other party. The plates are owned by us, and the engravings will be held by us exclusively. Those who do not wish to subscribe for THE INDEPENDENT, and desire to purchase either of these engravings, can have them at

Two Dollars Each,

or Three Dollars for both—the cash to accompany the order.

We shall register the orders as received, and deliver the engravings in accordance therewith—commencing early in March.

A limited number of Artist's Proofs, signed by Ritchie, will be reserved. Price $5 each, or $8 for both; or they will be given away, one each, as a premium for two new subscribers.

Send Your Orders.

Address

HENRY C. BOWEN,

Publisher and Proprietor,

"THE INDEPENDENT,"

Box 2787, New York.

The Independent.

PREMIUMS.

Subject in every respect to TERMS on First Page.

Putnam's Monthly Magazine.

Steadily and rapidly growing in merit and popularity, and a great favorite in tens of thousands of families.

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and *Putnam's Magazine* one year—price $4—to any person (not already a subscriber to *Putnam*) who will send us $5 50; or we will send *Putnam's Magazine* one year as a present to any new subscriber for that periodical who will send us the names of three new subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

Harper's Monthly.

Always rich, racy, and readable, popular alike with old and young, splendidly illustrated, and worthy of its extensive patronage.

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and *Harper's Monthly*—price $4—to any person (not already a subscriber to *Harper's Monthly*) who will send us $5 50; or we will send *Harper's Monthly* one year as a present to any new subscriber for that periodical who will send us the names of three new subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

The Galaxy.

Bold, talented, liberal, attractive writers, fine stories, and every way deserving its high position and great prosperity.

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and *The Galaxy* one year—price $4—to any person (not already a subscriber to *The Galaxy*) who will send us $5 50; or we will send *The Galaxy* one year to any new subscriber for that periodical who will send us the names of three new subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

Harper's Weekly.

A favorite everywhere and with everybody; and all our subscribers, of course, will order it through us at the reduced price.

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and *Harper's Weekly* for one year—price $4—to any person (not already a subscriber to *Harper's Weekly*) who will send us $5 50; or we will send *Harper's Weekly* one year as a present to any new subscriber that for periodical who will send us the names of three new subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

Harper's Bazar,

with its fashion-plates, illustrations, engravings, and minute instructions in regard to all matters pertaining to the toilette, is regarded as indispensable authority in all "good society."

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and *Harper's Bazar* one year—price $4—to any person (not already a subscriber to *Harper's Bazar*) who will send us $5 50; or we will send *Harper's Bazar* one year as a present to any new subscriber for that periodical who will send us the names of three new subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

American Agriculturist.

More than a hundred thousand farmers and others take it, and pronounce it first-rate. It is also a great favorite with city gentry, and alike a necessity and a luxury.

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and the *American Agriculturist* for one year—price $1 50—to any person who will send us $3 75; or we will send the *American Agriculturist* one year as a present to any person who will send us the names of two new subscribers to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

National Sunday-school Teacher, of Chicago.

Altogether the best, cheapest, and most popular Sabbath-school monthly in America, and worthy of a place in every family. Friends of the young should labor earnestly for its extensive circulation; and, if possible, introduce it into every Sabbath-school class and Bible-class in the nation.

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and the *National Sunday-school Teacher* (monthly) for one year—price $1 50—to any person (not already a subscriber to *The National Sunday-school Teacher*) who will send us $3; or we will send the *National Sunday-school Teacher* one year as a present to any new subscriber for that periodical who will send us the name of one new subscriber to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

Carpenter's Book,

SIX MONTHS AT THE WHITE HOUSE WITH ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

This book has now a world-wide reputation, and those who desire perfect familiarity with the beautiful life and character of Abraham Lincoln should have it without delay. We have already given away nearly twenty thousand copies, and are ready to send broadcast a hundred thousand or five hundred thousand more.

We will send THE INDEPENDENT one year—price $2 50—and "Six Months at the White House"—price $1 50—postage paid to any person who will send us $3; or we will send "Six Months at the White House" as a present to any person who will send us the name of one new subscriber to THE INDEPENDENT, with the money.

Worcester's Unabridged Pictorial Quarto Dictionary.

We will present this magnificent unabridged pictorial dictionary—price $10—to any person who will send us the names of six new subscribers, with the money ($15), or to any person not in arrears who will renew his subscription for eight years and pay us $20. This splendid volume, of eighteen hundred and fifty pages, is becoming more and more popular wherever the English language is spoken, and by thousands is pronounced vastly superior to any other dictionary in the world. It is worth a whole library of ordinary trash, called books, and should be owned and placed on the centre-table for daily consultation and study in *every family.* Our favorable contract with the Publishers enables us to offer it for the trifling effort of obtaining six new subscribers. Reader, if you are destitute, go to work.

RITCHIE'S

Celebrated Steel Engraving of Hicks's famous and beautiful Oil Painting, entitled

"Authors of the United States."

HUNDREDS ALREADY GIVEN AWAY, AND EVERYBODY IS DELIGHTED.

This wonderful steel engraving—size 19 by 35 inches—is one of Ritchie's finest productions, and would be a splendid ornament to hang in any parlor or library in the United States. It contains a good-sized likeness of the following distinguished authors:

IRVING.	BANCROFT.
BRYANT.	PARKE GODWIN.
COOPER.	MOTLEY.
LONGFELLOW.	BEECHER.
MRS. HEMANS.	CURTIS.
MRS. SIGOURNEY.	EMERSON.
MISS SOUTHWORTH.	R. H. DANA.
MITCHELL.	MARGARET FULLER (OSSOLI).
WILLIS.	CHANNING.
HOLMES.	MISS STONE.
KENNEDY.	MRS. KIRKLAND.
MRS. MOWATT RITCHIE.	WHITTIER.
ALICE CAREY.	LOWELL.
C. P. CRANCH.	BOKER.
G. W. KENDALL.	BAYARD TAYLOR.
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POE.	GODDARD.
TUCKERMAN.	MRS. AMELIA WELBY.
HAWTHORNE.	GALLAGHER.
SIMMS.	COZZENS.
E. PENDLETON COOKE.	HALLECK.
HOFFMAN.	
PRESCOTT.	

The lowest price of this beautiful engraving is $14. We have purchased the steel plate, at a cost of $4,500, and now offer to present a copy of the engraving to any person who will send us the names of four new subscribers, with the money, $10, or who will renew their own subscription for four years and pay us $10. The engraving will be delivered at our office, or it will be carefully packed and sent free of charge to any part of the country where there is a post-office—except to places where *overland rates* are charged. We believe this premium honestly to be the most valuable and beautiful present ever offered by any newspaper for four new subscribers. Perfect satisfaction is absolutely guaranteed, *or the money will be refunded* in every case, and to all persons who order this engraving on the liberal terms proposed.

Grover & Baker

SEWING-MACHINE.

GREAT PREMIUM FOR

1869.

Sewing Machines Given Away

BY THOUSANDS.

A MAGNIFICENT OFFER

TO

Every Subscriber of The Independent.

TO EVERY READER,

AND TO EVERY PERSON

Wanting a Perfect Sewing Machine,

TAKE NOTICE.

GROVER & BAKER'S world-renowned No. 23 Family Sewing Machine, with hemmer and tucker complete, sells for $55, cash. We will present such a machine to any person who will send us the names of TWENTY-TWO new subscribers (see terms on first page), which, at our usual rates, $2 50 each, is $55—*just the cash price of the machine.*

We simply want the names (with the money) of *twenty-two persons* who do not take our paper, and who really subscribe for it; they may be sent one at a time, or all together; they may be at one post-office, or more than one—we are only particular that they shall be *bona-fide new subscribers.* On this liberal offer we shall expect to send one of these indispensable household articles into almost every village in the country.

There are thousands of very worthy but poor women connected with our churches who may be made comparatively independent if they can be furnished with a sewing machine. To obtain it, and easily too, it is only necessary for some friend to make a move. A clergyman writes us that he announced publicly to his congregation that they might be called on to subscribe for THE INDEPENDENT, in order to supply a needy family with the means of self-support—a sewing machine. The object was specially accomplished, and the family no longer lived on charity. Those who think "charity begins at home" will, of course, need only a slight "stirring up" to induce them to practice their principles in such a good cause.

The best gifts are those that have a permanent value, that do not deteriorate with use, or lose their interest and importance with the lapse of time.

There are very few purchasable *household* articles which retain their value, and all the time yield a splendid interest on the investment; but among them we must put down first a GROVER & BAKER Sewing Machine. This modern miracle, this magic seamstress, with exact eye and tireless fingers, not only reaps over and over again in a very short time the money spent in its purchase, but is capable of becoming a small fortune to its possessor.

It is the most valuable gift that a husband can make to his wife, a father to his daughter, the benevolent to the poor, or a congregation to their minister's wife.

It is not only a household assistant, worth the labor of three or four pairs of hands; but it is a life annuity, a perpetual security against absolute want. A clever operator on a GROVER & BAKER Machine can always find remunerative employment, all the more because it accomplishes so wide a range of work.

Any first-class Sewing Machine is good for a gift, and possesses a certain value. But we recommend the GROVER & BAKER, *because it is the best;* because it accomplishes the most and the best work with the least trouble; because the stitch is the most durable, as well as the most beautiful; because it is the only one adapted to all kinds of work, and every variety of material; because it is more simple, more easily understood than others, and requires no delay in rewinding, fastening, and the like.

There are many other reasons which we could give; but these will suffice with the crowning one—that it never fails to give the most entire and perfect satisfaction.

Persons intending to take advantage of this offer, and sending the subscribers' names as they obtain them, will please state in each instance that they are sent on this account.

All subscriptions sent under this offer must begin with the number of the paper NEXT AFTER THE RECEIPT OF THE MONEY.

Remittances must be made by post-office money-order, bank-check, or express (paid). Address (with full directions how to ship the machines),

HENRY C. BOWEN,

PUBLISHER,

No. 3 Park Place, N. Y.

MARRIED.

PALMER—BARNES.—The 10th inst., in the Clinton-ave. Congregational church, Brooklyn, N. Y., by Rev. W. I. Budington, D.D., Rev. Charles Ray Palmer, of Salem, Mass., to Mary Chapin, daughter of A. S. Barnes, Esq., of Brooklyn. (No cards.)

DIED.

TAIT.—In Highbury Park, London, England, on the 14th of January, Mrs. Elizabeth, relict of Rev. James Tait, and beloved mother of Mr. Wm. J. Tait, of this city, aged 76 years.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints"

SCRIBNER.—On Monday, Feb. 15th, Emma E., wife of Charles Scribner, and daughter of John I. Blair, of Blairstown, New Jersey.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

WILLIMANTIC LINEN COMPANY,

MANUFACTURERS OF

Three Cord Silk Finish

AND

Six Cord Soft Finish

Spool Cotton.

The latter particularly adapted for Sewing Machines, as will be seen by the following certificate from the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Co.:

WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE CO.,
No. 625 BROADWAY,
NEW YORK, March 24, 1868.

We beg to call the attention of the public and our Agents to the NEW SIX CORD THREAD of the WILLIMANTIC LINEN CO., which we have thoroughly tested, and find superior to any other in the market.

Good Thread is essential to the successful working of Sewing Machines, and we have always encouraged its improvement. The WILLIMANTIC COMPANY has made special efforts to satisfy us, and expended a MILLION OF DOLLARS in building and organizing a New Factory. Now, with improved machinery, it has achieved a success exceedingly gratifying to us; and furnishes a new Six Cord Thread which we commend to our Agents and all purchasers and users of Wheeler & Wilson and other Sewing Machines.

WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE CO.

Geo. S. Moulton & Co.,

Sole Agents in New York,

101 CHAMBERS ST.

TEN PER CENT. COUPON BONDS OF the CITY OF LANSING, the Capital of Michigan. For sale by A. WILKINS, Detroit, Mich.

ORNAMENTAL AND USEFUL.

BUY ONLY

SILVER TIPPED SHOES

For Children. Will outwear three pairs without tips.

J. RUSSELL & CO.,

GREEN RIVER WORKS.

We now offer to the Trade a new line of goods, bearing the above Trade-mark. These are made of the best materials, tempered and finished with all possible care, and are in every respect superior to imported Cutlery.

All of our

CARVING AND SLICING KNIVES

so stamped are warranted perfect in temper and durability of edge.

CAUTION—Since the success of our new Patent all Steel Silver-plated Knife was established, a number of imitations have appeared in the market, all of which are infringements upon our Patent-rights and cannot be relied upon. Be sure that your goods bear the Trade-mark of "J. Russell & Co."

Sets of 27, 49, and 72 pieces, in Rosewood and Silver Cases, for Wedding and Holiday Presents, for sale by all dealers.

OFFICE, 83 BEEKMAN ST., N. Y.

COMMUNION SERVICES.

In addition to our extensive assortment of Silver-Plated Ware for family use, we are making a specialty of the manufacture of Communion Ware, in great variety, and of chaste and appropriate designs. Liberal terms made with religious societies. Photographs, showing the various styles, will be sent by mail on application. ADAMS, CHANDLER & CO.,
No. 30 John street, New York.

Vermilye & Co.,

Bankers,

Nos. 16 & 18 Nassau st., New York,

KEEP CONSTANTLY ON HAND FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY ALL ISSUES OF

UNITED STATES STOCKS.

WE GIVE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO

FUNDING

7-30 TREASURY LOANS.

ALL SERIES TAKEN IN EXCHANGE FOR 5-20 BONDS.

Returns made to Correspondents without Delay, and on Favorable Terms.

John J. Cisco & Son,

BANKERS,

No. 59 Wall st., New York,

(Brown Brothers & Co.'s Building.)

RECEIVE MONEY ON DEPOSIT IN GOLD, COIN, OR CURRENCY, and allow INTEREST at the rate of four per cent. per annum on daily balances, subject to check at sight.

Issue Certificates of Deposit, bearing *four per cent.* interest, payable on demand.

Negotiate Loans

Execute promptly orders for the purchase and sale of Gold.

Buy and Sell Government and other Securities on commission.

Make collections on all parts of the United States and Canada.

REMOVAL.

U. S. Trust Company

REMOVED TO

49 WALL STREET,

FIRST FLOOR.

Capital and Surplus - - - $2,000,000.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS,

which may be made and withdrawn at any time, and will be entitled to interest for the whole time they may remain with the Company.

JOHN A. STEWART, President.

WILLIAM H. MACY, } Vice-Presidents.
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WILLIAM BARROW, Secretary.

WALTER T. HATCH. NATHL. W. T. HATCH.

W. T. Hatch & Son,

Bankers and Dealers

IN

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,

No. 34 Wall Street, N. Y.,

BUY AND SELL AT MARKET RATES

U. S. 6 per cent. Bonds of 1881. Coupon and Registered.
U. S. Five-twenty 6 per cent. Bonds.
U. S. Ten-forty 5 per cent. Bonds.
U. S. Seven-thirty Treasury Notes.
U. S. One-year Certificates.
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And all classes of Government Issues.

ACCOUNTS OF BANKS, BANKERS, AND OTHERS RECEIVED ON FAVORABLE TERMS.

Interest Allowed on Deposits subject to Check.

ORDERS IN

GOLD, RAILWAY STOCKS, AND BONDS

Promptly Executed at the Stock and Gold Exchange.

NATIONAL Life Insurance Co.

OF THE

United States of America,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Cash Capital - - - $1,000,000.

Branch Office:

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, PHILADA.,

To which all general correspondence should be addressed.

OFFICERS:

CLARENCE H. CLARK, President.
JAY COOKE, Chairman of Finance and Executive Com.

This Company, National in its character, offers, by reason of its large capital, many features not found in New Tables, the most desirable means of Insuring Life yet presented to the public.

JAY COOKE & CO., 316 Broadway, New York, General Agents for New York State and Northern N.J.
E. W. CLARK & CO., Philadelphia,
General Agents for Pennsylvania and Southern N. J.

CABINET ORGANS.

The success of the Mason & Hamlin Organ Company, now the largest manufacturers of instruments of this class in the world, producing and finding a demand for an average of one hundred and twenty-five organs *per week*, illustrates what can be done by energetic and perseverine pursuit of right principles in business. The following are what may be called to be *Articles of their Constitution*, kept always in view and never deviated from:

1. Excellence in the manufactured article must never be sacrificed to economy and cost. *The best*, only and always.

2. No degree of superiority shall be considered satisfactory as long as improvement is possible.

3. The use of every valuable invention and real improvement must be obtained, at whatever cost.

4. Productions to be sold at lowest possible prices; these to be printed and offered to all alike, thus dealing fairly and impartially with the public.

This Company have expended an immense amount in experiments for improvements, in which they have been greatly successful, developing, enlarging, improving, and adding to the well-known Melodeons of former times, until they have become the magnificent MASON & HAMLIN CABINET ORGANS of the present, to which was awarded the Paris Exposition Medal for superiority of tone.

They have just introduced an important improvement, the MASON & HAMLIN IMPROVED VOX HUMANA, a beautiful invention, which is said to be as great an advance upon the Fox *Humana* already used as the Cabinet Organ is upon the Melodeon. They also announce important reduction in prices, offering their unequaled Organs at prices which are even less than those commonly demanded for inferior workmanship. This is the result of their greatly increased manufacturing facilities for manufacture, and fixed rule to sell at smallest profit.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION

No. 96 WARREN ST.

Interest allowed at the rate of six per cent. on all sums entitled thereto. Open daily from 10 to 3 P. M.

WARREN W. CONCKLIN, President.
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON Secretary.

BRANDRETH'S PILLS.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Brandreth's Pills have been known and used by your grandfathers and grandmothers. They are always safe, and sure to do you good. They are purely vegetable, and diminish the death principle; some think they increase the principle of life. But in taking out these humors from the blood they do make the body lighter, and thus seem to add energy. Many families have used them for upward of forty years.

They are the best medicines for Colds, for all Bilious Affections, for Fullness about the Head or Heart, and in all Cutaneous and Contagious Diseases they are unrivaled. In all cases in which a purgative is indicated no medicine yet known can be compared to them. Two hundred physicians have testified that Brandreth's Pills are superior to all other purgatives whatever. Sold by all Druggists.

EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE.

PARIS, 1867.

WHEELER & WILSON, No. 625 BROADWAY, N. Y., Awarded, over Eighty-two Competitors

THE HIGHEST PREMIUM.

A GOLD MEDAL,

for the perfection of Sewing Machines and Button-Hole Machines. The only Gold Medal for this branch of manufacture.

BALL, BLACK & CO.

565 & 567 BROADWAY,

CALL THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC TO THEIR ELEGANT AND VARIED ASSORTMENT OF

NICKLE SILVER

AND FINE

WHITE METAL

ELECTRO PLATED

TABLE WARE

MANUFACTURED EXPRESSLY FOR THEM BY THE

MERIDEN BRITANNIA COMP'Y.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH IN CHINA.

THE EAST INDIA TELEGRAPH COMPANY'S Office, Nos. 23 and 25 Nassau Street. Organized under special charter from the State of New York.

CAPITAL - - - $5,000,000.

50,000 Shares, $100 Each.

DIRECTORS:

Hon. ANDREW G. CURTIN, Phila.;
PAUL S. FORBES, of Russell & Co., China;
FRED. BUTTERFIELD, of F. Butterfield & Co., New York;
ISAAC LIVERMORE, Treas. Mich. Cen. R. R., Boston;
ALEXANDER HOLLAND, Treas. Am. Ex. Co., New York;
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FLETCHER WESTRAY, of Westray, Gibbs & Hardcastle, N. Y.;
NICHOLAS MICKLES, New York

OFFICERS:

A. G. CURTIN, President;
N. MICKLES, Vice-President;
GEORGE CONANT, Secretary;
GEORGE ELLIS, (Cashier Nat. Bank Commonwealth), Treasurer;
Hon. A. K. MCCLURE, Philadelphia, Solicitor.

The Chinese Government having (through the Hon. Anson Burlingame) conceded to this Company the privilege of connecting the great seaports of the Empire by submarine electric telegraph cable, we propose commencing operations in China, and laying down a line of 900 miles at once, between the following ports, viz.:

	Population.
Canton,	1,000,000
Macao,	60,000
Hong-Kong,	250,000
Swatow,	200,000
Amoy,	250,000
Foo-Chow,	1,250,000
Wan-Chu,	500,000
Ningpo,	400,000
Hang-Chean,	1,200,000
Shanghai,	1,000,000
Total,	5,910,000

These ports have a foreign commerce of $900,000,000, and an enormous domestic trade; besides which we have the immense internal commerce of the Empire, radiating from these points, through its canals and navigable rivers.

The cable being laid, this Company proposes erecting land-lines, and establishing a speedy and trustworthy means of communication, which must command there, as everywhere else, the communications of the government, of business, and of social life, especially in China. She has no postal system, and her only means now of communicating information is by courier on land, and by steamers on water.

The Western World knows that China is a very large country, in the main densely peopled; but few

The Independent.

A LOST IDEAL.

It is not because you have been untrue
That I sigh whenever I think of you;
Nor because we never shall meet again
That my heart is crushed with a leaden pain.

It is not because your love grew cold,
Which I thought would last till we both were old;
Nor because your friendship is light as fair,
For you could not change when you never were.

It was not you that in pain and tears
I left one day in the vanished years;
Each passionate drop of that bitter dew
Was meant for a phantom, and not for you.

My dream was true! my dream was true!
I've wandered everywhere, looking for you;
But where you have vanished I cannot tell,
Yet would I had heard your passing bell.

For then should I dare to cling this day
To the tender thoughts I must dash away.
But vain are regrets, for the veil is removed,
And I know it was not you that I loved.

Ah, well! For us all some veil must be rent
From our inmost shrine of deep content;
And the silver mist of Fancy's lies
Will not hide the truth from our anguished eyes.

CLAUDE IRIS.

WESTERN CORRESPONDENCE.

CHICAGO, Feb. 9th, 1869.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE INDEPENDENT:

IT having been impossible to get up a debate on the subject of woman's suffrage, since until last Sunday nobody ventured to oppose it, we have originated a controversy here in Chicago in an original and peculiar way. We have two rival suffrage conventions, both to meet the day after to-morrow. All efforts to bring them together have failed. Both claim to have all the eminent speakers, and only the issue can decide which will be the largest. "The army of the queer and the crazy," says Mary Clemmer Ames, in last week's INDEPENDENT, "march instinctively after everything new." We have a brigade of that army in Chicago, who have broken down everything they touched—who burlesqued Mr. Moody's open-air meetings until the police squelched both him and them. Now this division seems to be very fortunate. It arose out of a fear of these people. And, as Music Hall has been the rendezvous of the whole tribe of bedlamites, where lectures are delivered, as on Sunday last, "On Washington and Lincoln in Spirit-life," and where poems are given by special request "On John Wilkes Booth," it is expected that the Music Hall Convention will monopolize the attention of this order of beings, and leave the Farwell Hall meeting to practical men and women. But we cannot but feel sorry for the really good people who are in the Music Hall movement, for the original incorporated Sorosis leads that movement; while the Farwell Hall meeting, the first called, is popularly known as "Mrs. Livermore's convention"—that indefatigable lady, to whose energy and ability the Sanitary Commission and the Universalist denomination owe so much, being one of the leading spirits in the movement. It is dangerous to prophesy; but what Mrs. Livermore undertakes to do is likely to be well done.

Everything is happening fortunately. All the movement wanted was opposition. It did not seem likely to get it. Several pulpits had spoken in its favor. Last Sunday evening, Dr. Fowler, of Wabash-avenue Methodist church, preached one of his brilliant and original sermons on "Woman's Work in the Church and out of it." The Christian Convention some weeks ago applauded roundly a speaker who favored woman's suffrage. Here, in radical Chicago, it seemed that we should fail, for want of somebody to fight. Even the Democratic politicians, worn-out hacks, who would as soon have thought of overcoming their aversion to cold water sufficiently to drown themselves as of doing anything radical, are speaking out boldly in favor of the ballot for women. And it is rumored that the whole influence of the Roman Catholic clergy has been cast in its favor. But everything has happened fortunately, as I said. We will never have done with paradoxes and surprises. Robert Laird Collier, of the Church of the Messiah (Unitarian), who has always been as radical as possible, astonished everybody last Sunday evening by planting himself, timidly but squarely, on the old ground of the irresponsible, jury that will be done to comparable in importance as woman by any change in her social or political status. But he made so many admissions—[illegible] and cited so many instances of women who had succeeded in a great variety of callings without impairing their domesticity, that the recoil of his piece was more damaging than the force of his projectile. Our gentle Quaker preacher, Elizabeth Comstock, asked the privilege of replying, it is said; and Mr. Collier has gallantly tendered her the use of his pulpit for next Sunday evening. Mrs. Comstock's life and labors are the best response.

The Second Presbyterian church is debating the question of removing from their present location; and it is quite a question with them what disposal they shall make of their present church-site, which is overrun with large business blocks. There is a proposition before them to build a block like the Clark-street Methodist block. It will be a real loss to the city to have the Second church building taken down. Visitors are always impressed with the curious and picturesque appearance of remote antiquity given to its walls by the bitumen that has oozed from and stained the stones since they were exposed to the air.

Rev. William Alvin Bartlett preached his opening sermon at Plymouth church on Sunday morning last. It was very able, and revealed no tendencies to Atheism.

The Report of the Commissioners of the Illinois State Penitentiary is a document of great interest. We have but one such institution in this state, which boasts a larger number of inmates than any other in the country, with one exception. The present enlightened commissioners are endeavoring to do away entirely with the barbarous labor contract system, and to introduce other reforms. With the prison overcrowded, with a capital in machinery, etc., entirely insufficient, and with almost every imaginable difficulty in the way, the success of the experiment is truly surprising. But it is too bad that every social reform of the kind must be brought up to the test of immediate pecuniary success. It is not to the credit of our civilization that the economy of a few dollars is always more esteemed than the permanent benefit of society. It is not likely, however, that the legislature will return to the old system. One of the most embarrassing features of the case is that every branch of industry pursued in the state is protesting against the introduction of their trade into the prison, lest "competition with convict labor" should affect their interests unfavorably. If the prison is to be efficient at all, the convicts must do something, and it is to be hoped that the senseless and impudent clamor, that even asks that these eleven hundred men shall be shut up in idleness, will be utterly unheeded. It is a matter for just pride that we have a board of commissioners with enlightened ideas of prison management.

But one of the best features of their conduct of the institution is the character of the chaplain they have appointed, and the results of his labor. Less than a year ago he organized a religious society of fifteen members. It was a light shining in a dark place—this church of the penitentiary. During eight months and a half following, two hundred and sixty-one have been received into membership. The commissioners speak in the highest terms of the genuineness of this work of conversion, and point to the exemplary character of those converted men who have been discharged as the best proof of the fact.

A new mission chapel was dedicated in Detroit, last week, for the Sunday-school of which Mr. Z. S. Brockway is superintendent.

Mr. Moody has resumed his Sunday evening meetings, which have been somewhat interrupted since the burning of Farwell Hall, a year ago. The noon prayer-meeting, which did not suffer a day's interruption, continues to grow; and a second meeting has been appointed at three o'clock in the afternoon.

PENHOLDER.

Book Table.

THE NEW ENGLAND TRAGEDIES.*

WITHOUT direct reference to acts of cruelty perpetrated in New England two centuries ago, under the guise of religion, the very state of the popular mind at that period is in itself a tragedy full of terrible meaning. Superstition takes its color from the blue light through which tragedy looms. Whether it be a king of Dahomey, sacrificing a thousand slaves at his queen's obsequies, or a New Englander of two centuries ago, torturing and killing harmless people who happened to differ slightly from him on certain questions of theology, the tragic element of the circumstances is to be discerned as plainly in the conditions which led to the results as in the results themselves. When men believed in witchcraft the spirit of the period was tragic; and in times when religious fanaticism prevailed the temper of tragedy was abroad, tinging all the social and political components with its crimson hue. It is in this spirit, we think, that Mr. Longfellow has viewed certain events that took place in Boston and Salem some two hundred years since. "The New England Tragedies," as dramatized by him from the records of the period, bring us rather in contact with the character and peculiar mental condition existing at the time of action than with the actions themselves. But the "Tragedies" are not less tragic on that account. It is true that in his construction of these poems Mr. Longfellow has used sparingly the tangible horrors of the executioner and his implements of blood. These are suggested rather than brought upon the stage. The sentiment of tragedy breathes throughout the poems in the sad, morbid feeling with which the poet has infused them, and in the characters of the persecutors and persecuted, brought by him so vividly before us. To quote from the prologue to the first of the "Tragedies":

> "Rise, too, ye shapes and shadows of the Past,
> Rise from your long-forgotten graves at last:
> Let us behold your faces, let us hear
> The words ye uttered in those days of fear!
>
> 'Revisit your familiar haunts again—
> The scenes of triumph and the scenes of pain,
> And leave the footprints of your bleeding feet
> Once more upon the pavement of the street!'"

In the first of the Tragedies, "John Endicott," we have illustrations of the pragmatical folly and cruelty belonging to the place and period (Boston is the scene of action, time 1665,) in the fanatical priest, Norton, and in Merry, the "tithing-man," who acts as his whipper-in and bailiff. Endicott, the governor, after numerous Quakers and other "heretics" have been put to death by his orders, begins to relent, and to repent him of much blood. To his elbow comes Norton, however, prompting him with cruel sophistries to take extreme measures against one Wenlock Christison, and his fair young daughter, Edith, Quakers, and fit subjects, therefore, for the halter and the scourge. Thus Norton, after Endicott has consented to cast these unhappy "heretics" into prison:

> "Enough. I ask no more. My predecessor
> Coped only with the milder heresies
> Of Anthinomians and of Anabaptists.
> He was not born to wrestle with these fiends.
> Chrysostom in his pulpit; Augustine
> In disputation; Timothy in his house!
> The lantern of St. Botolph's ceased to burn
> When from the portals of that church he came
> To be a burning and a shining light
> Here in the wilderness. And, as he lay
> On his death-bed, he saw me in a vision
> Ride on a snow-white horse into this town.
> His vision was prophetic. Now I came,
> A terror to the impenitent, and Death,
> On the pale horse of the Apocalypse,
> To all the accursed race of Heretics!"

And then we have a little *genre* sketch of Merry, the "tithing-man," who stones the pigeons on his house-top because they bill and coo on Sunday; and threatens with prosecution one Nicholas Upsall, an aged and respectable citizen, because he sits by his threshold instead of going to meeting. Acting as a spy on young Endicott, he detects him in denouncing the laws restraining religious faith as "cruel, wicked, and abominable"; and, reporting this to the Governor, thus follows up his instinct for making everybody unhappy by setting father against son.

The passage between young John Endicott and Edith, in the prison, reveals love on both sides, and suggests a sequel not given in the poem. He urges Edith to flee with him. Her father is under sentence of death, in the prison; and she will not leave him. Nevertheless, she thus discloses her love:

> "Yet will I not deny it nor conceal it:
> From the first moment I beheld thy face
> I felt a tenderness in my soul toward thee."

Scourged through three towns by the hand of the hangman, Edith finds her way to the woods. Thither John Endicott follows, but does not find her; and, having called her name many times without reply, he thus gives way to his grief and passion:

> "It is in vain! I call, she answers not;
> I follow, but I find no trace of her!
> Blood! blood! The leaves above me and around me
> Are red with blood! The pathways of the forest,
> The clouds that canopy the setting sun,
> And even the little river in the meadow,
> Are stained with it! Where'er I look I see it!
> Away, thou horrible vision! Leave me! leave me!
> Alas! yon winding stream, that gropes its way
> Through mist and shadow, doubling on itself,
> At length will find, by the unerring law
> Of Nature, what it seeks. O soul of man,
> Groping through mist and shadow, and recoiling
> Back on thyself, are, too, thy devious ways
> Subject to law? And when thou seemest to wander
> The furthest from thy goal, art thou still drawing
> Nearer and nearer to it, till at length
> Thou findest, like the river, what thou seekest?"

Retribution falls in some of the leading characters of the drama. Word is brought that Norton, the fanatical priest, has fallen dead by his own fireside. Humphrey Atherton, a red-handed Puritan, who does not appear among the *dramatis personæ*, is reported as having broken his neck by a fall from his horse, at the place

> "Where usually the Quakers had been scourged."

Broken-hearted by the bloody events in which he took a leading part, and by the haunting of his unjust action in driving his son away from home, Governor Edicott dies a ghastly death, in his armchair, his head falling on one side—

> "Oh, ghastly sight! Like one who has been hanged!"

The second of the Tragedies, "Giles Corey of the Salem Farms," is founded upon the events that took place at Salem in and about the year 1682. Yet the poet, in his prologue, has a word to say for New England, whose witchcraft and persecution of the innocent were not hers alone. Speaking of the errors of the time, he says:

> "Be not too swift in casting the first stone,
> Nor think New England bears the guilt alone.
> This sudden burst of wickedness and crime
> Was but the common madness of the time,
> When in all lands, that lie within the sound
> Of Sabbath-bells, a witch was burned or drowned."

* THE NEW ENGLAND TRAGEDIES. By H. W. LONGFELLOW. Boston: Ticknor & Fields.

An honest but somewhat weak-minded old farmer, Giles Corey is so wrought upon by the machinations of designing persons as to bear witness against his wife on an accusation of witchcraft. His oxen run wildly into the woods, plunge into a river, and are drowned. He meditates suicide, but is reserved for a worse fate. Accused of witchcraft himself, he refuses to plead; and is condemned by Hawthorne, a sanguinary magistrate, to the terrible death of the *peine forte et dure*, or pressure to death by weights. The execution of this sentence is more than suggested; for, in the last scene, the wretched victim is seen lying dead, with a great stone on his breast. Throughout the poem there are characters and indications that bring these times and scenes of blood vividly before the reader—without details, indeed, but in a broad and simple manner, that best produces the somber color appropriate to the circumstances. Here is a little forest sketch, replete with wood mystery and the superstition of the period. Corey says:

> "As I came through the woods this afternoon,
> Impatient at my loss, and much perplexed
> With all that I had heard there in the village,
> The yellow leaves lit up the trees about me,
> Like an enchanted palace, and I wished
> I knew enough of magic, or of witchcraft,
> To change them into gold. Then suddenly
> A tree shook down some crimson leaves upon me
> Like drops of blood, and in the path before me
> Stood Tituba, the Indian, the old crone."

A prominent character in the poem is the Rev. Cotton Mather, whose philosophy is hardly strong enough to stifle his belief in witchcraft. Arguing with Hawthorne against the practice of putting to death for witchcraft, yet he thus admits his belief in charms and the evil eye:

> "What more convinced me of the woman's guilt
> Was finding hidden in her cellar-wall
> Those poppets made of rags, with headless pins
> Stuck into them points outward, and whereof
> She could not give a reasonable account."

Yet, at the close of the last scene, where Corey's body is discovered with the great stone upon it, Mather breaks out with:

> "O slight most horrible! In a land like this,
> Spangled with churches evangelical,
> Impugned in our salvations, must we seek
> In smoldering statute-books of English courts
> Some old forgotten law, to do such deeds?
> Those who lie buried in the Potter's Field
> Will rise again, as surely as ourselves,
> That steep in honored graves with epitaphs;
> And this poor man, whom we have made a victim,
> Hereafter will be counted as a martyr!"

Sketchy as these poems are, they undoubtedly carry the reader back to conditions and characters which have long ceased to exist, and which in the order of things can never exist again. Readers who can revel in the sensational only will probably be disappointed in these New England Tragedies. The conventional, stagey idea of tragedy has no place in them. No combat with falchion and buckler brings down the galleries. But over the scenes deftly produced by him the poet has thrown an indescribably somber and lurid atmosphere, through which we see his figures moving "as in a glass, darkly."

The volume, we may add, is a sumptuous one for type, paper, and general tastefulness of make-up.

FIELD AND GARDEN FLORA.*

THOUGH Gray's "Manual" has some defects, we have always used it in preference to any other botanical text-book. The one great advantage which Wood's Botany has had over Gray's Manual has been that the former embraced exotic as well as native and naturalized plants. Scholars must have them; in cities they can often obtain nothing else; and it was a great defect of the Manual that the student could not find in it the name of a petunia, or a dahlia, or a China aster. To be sure, they were in an appendix, called "Garden Botany"; but this was an afterthought and an excrescence on the volume. The demand which pupils make for a text-book which shall include both wild and cultivated plants has been admirably met in Professor Gray's new "Field, Forest, and Garden Botany," which is designed to embrace all plants, native and exotic, which would be analyzed in our schools. The volume delights us. We turned first, with a teacher's instinct, to the Analytical Key, and find it just what is wanted; not too scientific, but practical. Were we to make any suggestion of improvement, it would be that the Key should contain no description of the contents of the ovary in cases where it is not of considerable size. Parietal and central placentæ are a special horror to immature botanists, who are attempting, with dull knives or with the thumb-nail, to cut a section of an immature ovary which they have dissected out of some early blossom. And here we remark that one of the most vital errors in botanical teaching is that pupils are left to carry each new flower to its order through the same old process, instead of learning the distinguishing marks of the leading orders. We analyzed hundreds of plants with a key before we found out why *Ranunculaceæ* was Order I.

The descriptions of the plants are very brief and good. Thus the wild violets, which occupy about two and a half pages of the Manual, are well enough described in less than one page of this volume. Everything technical and superfluous description is wisely avoided. Though these descriptions are remarkably accurate, our attention is attracted by a few points. *Viola striata* is, we are told, "not rare North and West." The Manual makes it "common." If either statement is true, we have been singularly unfortunate. We have "botanized" a good deal East and West, and never saw it in more than a single locality. On the other hand, *Geum triflorum* is noted in the Manual as "rocks; rare," and quite omitted in this volume; and yet we have found it a very common flower in prairies, and even on quite low land, as well as on rocks, in various parts of Wisconsin and in Northern Illinois. We should no more omit it than *Anemone pulsatilla*, which is scarcely more common. Such very rare plants as *Drosera linearis* Professor Gray properly omits, which, by the way, we have from the White Mountains as well as from Dr. Houghton's Lake Superior locality, given in the "Manual." Why the present volume says that *Viola delphinifolia* "takes the place of *V. pedata* in prairies, etc., West," we hardly understand. We have picked both violets at the West within ten feet of each other, and two more distinct blossoms are not to be found. The leaves are similar; but the larkspur-leaved violet has the old, loved, modest blossom, as unlike as possible to the bold, flaunting blossom of *V. pedata*.

This volume tempts us to add our surprise that so few of our choice wild flowers can be marked as cultivated. We have at least seven elegant and showy orchises, and all so rare as not to be despised like the dandelion for their commonness; but not one is cultivated. We have lady's-slippers far more beautiful and showy than some which we have seen in conservatories, the finest of which (*Cypripedium spectabile*) we know is even improved by cultivation. There is *Nardosmia palmata*—not showy, but fragrant as mignonette and flowering as early as the anemone; there is the Western *Pulsatilla*—almost never cultivated, though its large purple flowers open with the crocus; and there is the *Geum triflorum*, already mentioned—with its elegant nodding red and yellow blossoms in May, and which we have seen in June covering the ground with its waving plumes. We will not mention our ferns, more beautiful and various than those of England, though ferneries are not so popular with us as there. What have they to match our Climbing Fern, which has no rival in the world for elegance and grace; or our Walking Fern, or our Virginia Moonwort? We trust this volume will do much to develop a love for these, as well as for our cultivated plants. Professor Gray has done a good service in diverting his distinguished botanical erudition to the instruction of our boys and girls.

* GRAY'S SCHOOL AND FIELD BOOK OF BOTANY. Consisting of "First Lessons in Botany," and "Field, Forest, and Garden Botany," bound in one volume. By ASA GRAY, Professor of Natural History in Harvard University. 8vo, pp. 236 and 386. New York: Ivison, Phinney, Blakeman & Co.

—*Universology.*—Mr. Stephen Pearl Andrews has been engaged for several years back in the preparation of a scientific and philosophic work, the object of which is bolder than any ever yet attempted by a scientific man. Mr. Andrews claims to have discovered the "Science of the Universe"—in other words, the animating principle and unique power of all sciences: the Alcyone or central sun of all the systems of science which belong to man's universe. This looks at first very wild and chimerical. But, after all, there must be a center and a principle of the sciences somewhere; there must be a common life animating, a common idea explaining them all; they can no more be actually independent and isolated than the star-systems can. Mr. Andrews professes to have discovered the principle of unity, the science underlying all sciences; and he calls it Universology. On this subject he is publishing a book, which is to appear in March, and to which we are anxious to direct attention. We need hardly say that we are not to be understood as pronouncing any opinion on the genuineness of Mr. Andrews's discovery. We go so far as to say such a discovery does not seem to us to be *prima facie* an impossibility—and no further. But it is, we think, certain that Mr. Andrews's book, whether it succeed in its grand object or not, will be full of thought and will form a remarkable addition to the philosophy of the world.

—Messrs. Fields & Osgood continue the rapid issue of the household edition of Charles Reade's novels. Here are four together—"White Lies," "Love Me Little Love Me Long," "Never Too Late to Mend," and "Griffith Gaunt." *Apropos* of one of these novels may we relate a little anecdote, which does not pointedly affect Mr. Reade, but has a whimsical value of its own and is at all events true? This novel, which has a good deal to do with prison-life, was dramatized in England. Some of its most striking scenes were illustrative of jail discipline. A provincial manager who brought out the play, complained to a London manager that it failed in his hands because of its want of accuracy and reality. "But it was a success with us, in London," said the metropolitan manager. "Yes," replied the provincial, "I dare say it went down with your West End people well enough. But it wouldn't do in our town" (a great manufacturing city). "Our gallery boys wouldn't stand the jail scenes—they knew they were not the real thing. Bless you, they had every one been to jail; and they knew."

—J. W. Goodspeed & Co., 37 Park Row, have published a mezzotint engraving, by Sartain, of Gen. Grant and his Family. The General and his oldest son sit on their favorite horses, and the little daughter on her pony; while Mrs. Grant, the two younger children, and the family dog complete the group. The design, by Frederick B. Schell, is good; and the portraits, which are all engraved from photographs furnished by Mrs. Grant herself from the family album, are said to be accurate. The picture is published with the approval of Gen. Grant, and is sold only by subscription.

—*Noon-tide at Sychar*; or, *The Story of Jacob's Well*, by J. R. Macduff, D. D., author of "Morning and Night Watches," etc. (Robert Carter & Brothers, New York), is another religious work, the writing of which was suggested to Dr. Macduff by his late travels in Holy Land. It is written in the same style and on the same plan as "Sunsets on the Hebrew Mountains"; being a collection of short sermons, earnest and devout, filled with graphic and artistic descriptions of biblical scenes, and closing generally with well-chosen verses from some holy hymn.

—*Deep Down: A Tale of the Cornish Mines* (Lippincott) is a spirited narrative of incident and life in the Cornwall mining regions, by R. M. Ballantyne. The plot of the story is nothing, the principal characters are not worth talking about; but plot and personages are introduced as a framework on which to hang the author's animated and faithful descriptions of the many thrilling incidents belonging to the life of a Cornish miner. Thus understood, the book has much substantial value, and it is certainly full of interest.

—The New Hymn Book for the Methodist (Protestant) Church—compiled by Rev. Wm. Reeves, D.D., Rev. Alexander Clark, A. M., and William Rinehart, Esq., of Pittsburgh; Prof. McKeever, of Adrian, Mich.; and J. A. Dohrman, Esq., of Steubenville, Ohio—is nearly ready for the press. The committee of compilation have the authority of the General Conference to publish the work. The plan of the new Hymn Book is said to be concise, comprehensive, and practical, containing many new productions.

—*The Last Passover*, arranged by John R. Whitney (Claxton, Remsen & Haffelfinger, Philadelphia), is a verbal harmony of the four Gospel accounts of the closing scenes in Christ's life on the earth. This has been done, the compiler tells us, without introducing or altering a word to make the record read smoothly, and has required both care and study on his part. The book is in a convenient form for reference, and is neatly and tastefully gotten up.

—*Reason and Faith*; or, *The Two Lights*, by the author of "Struggles for Life," (J. B. Lippincott, Philadelphia), contains some excellent but heavy sermonizing and a very light thread of narrative. The sermon is better than the story, and would be more readable if published in a separate volume. Both are intended by the author to war against Rationalism.

—*Van Nostrand's Eclectic Engineering*, we find, contains a large amount of very valuable matter, selected from American and foreign sources. It is a new monthly, of about a hundred pages, devoted to mechanics, building, and the iron industry.

—*Dr. Jacob*, by M. Betham Edwards, is the latest issue of the "Handy Volume Series," published by Roberts Brothers, of Boston.

—*Harper's Magazine* for March is early in the field. It makes its appearance in advance of any of its competitors. It is peculiarly rich in illustrations this month. The article on "Policemen of the Sea"—that is, life-boats, light-ships, revenue boats, steam wrecking-tugs, etc.—has an illustration, in some cases two or three, on every page. So, too, of Mr. Conway's pleasant gossip about Christ Church on the English South Coast; a place which leads Mr. Conway into a study of Shelley and Shelley's sad life, and makes him almost poetic in his meditations on the poets. A second essay by Mr. Conway, called "A Hunt after Devils"—chiefly a description of Auerbach's Cellar in Leipzig, and its associations—is also full of interest. "Our Presentation at Court" is a sketch which displays much comical humor, and, we doubt not, much truth as well. Annie Thomas, the English novelist (Mrs. Pender Cudlip), contributes a short paper, called "An Outsider at an Otter-Hunt"; and Alice Cary sweetens the number with some tender and beautiful verses. The serial story, "My Enemy's Daughter," reaches a new stage of development; and there are also several short stories in the number, each of which is well worth reading. "The Easy Chair" has a good grumble at railway refreshment stations (oh! that its tones could reach the hearts of contractors and companies); and the short notices of books are done with judgment and taste.

—Mr. David Campbell, of Nashua, N. H., fifty-five years a Bible student, and author of "Text-book on the Visions of Daniel," has in press a "Bible-class Text-book on the Restoration of Israel and Judah." It is intended for use in Sunday-schools and Bible-classes, and he proposes to furnish it to them at a low rate, if they will order a considerable number of copies in advance.

—We have received the *Evening Journal* (Albany) *Almanac*. It is full of information, well put together.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

HARPER & BROTHERS,
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Have Just Published:

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Charles Reade.

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As an illustration of its general style and attractiveness, we copy from the March number a sketch which cannot fail of interesting every young reader, and which will, perhaps, among older readers serve to recall vividly to mind similar experiences as connected with their own boyhood days. It is

TOM BAILEY'S FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL.

"On reaching the school-house door, the Captain inquired for Mr. Grimshaw. The boy who answered our knock ushered us into a side-room, and in a few minutes—during which my eye took in forty-two caps hung on forty-two wooden pegs—Mr. Grimshaw made his appearance. He was a slender man, with white, fragile hands, and eyes that glanced half a dozen different ways at once—a habit probably acquired from watching the boys.

"After a brief consultation, my grandfather patted me on the head, and left me in charge of this gentleman, who seated himself in front of me and proceeded to sound the depth or, more properly speaking, the shallowness of my attainments. I suspect my historical information rather startled him. I recollect I gave him to understand that Richard III. was the last king of England.

"This ordeal over, Mr. Grimshaw rose and bade me follow him. A door opened, and I stood in the blaze of forty-two pairs of upturned eyes. I was a cool hand for my age; but I lacked the boldness to face this battery without winching. In a sort of dazed way I stumbled after Mr. Grimshaw down a narrow aisle between two rows of desks, and shyly took the seat pointed out to me.

"The faint buzz that had floated over the schoolroom at our entrance died away, and the interrupted lessons were resumed. By degrees I recovered my coolness, and ventured to look around me. The owners of the forty-two caps were seated at small green desks like the one assigned to me. The desks were arranged in six rows, with spaces between just wide enough to prevent the boys whispering. A blackboard, set into the wall, extended clear across the end of the room; on a raised platform near the door stood the master's table; and directly in front of this was a recitation-bench, capable of seating fifteen or twenty pupils. A pair of globes, tattooed with dragons and winged horses, occupied a shelf between two windows, which were so high from the floor that nothing but a giraffe could have looked out of them.

"Having possessed myself of these details, I scrutinized my new acquaintances with unconcealed curiosity, instinctively selecting my friends and picking out my enemies; and in only two cases did I mistake my man.

"A sallow boy with bright red hair, sitting in the fourth row, shook his fist at me furtively several times during the morning. I had a presentiment I should have trouble with that boy some day—a presentiment subsequently realised.

"On my left was a chubby little fellow, with a great many freckles (this was Pepper Whitcomb), who made some mysterious motions to me. I didn't understand them; but, as they were clearly of a pacific nature, I winked my eye at him. This appeared to be satisfactory for he then went on with his studies. At recess he gave me the core of his apple, though there were several applicants for it.

"Presently a boy in a loose olive-green jacket, with two rows of brass buttons, held up a fold of paper behind his slate, intimating that it was intended for me. The paper was passed skillfully from desk to desk until it reached my hands. On opening the scrap, I found that it contained a small piece of molasses candy, in an extremely humid state. This was certainly kind. I nodded my acknowledgments and hastily slipped the delicacy into my mouth. In a second I felt my tongue grow red-hot with cayenne pepper. My face must have assumed a comical expression; for the boy in olive-green jacket gave an hysterical laugh, for which he was instantly punished by Mr. Grimshaw. I swallowed the fiery candy, though it brought the water to my eyes, and managed to

Farm and Garden.

WHAT SHALL I PLANT THIS SPRING?

NEARLY every owner of a garden, farm, or orchard is now making his calculations for planting; and, of course, his head is puzzled with the multiplicity of varieties offered for sale. We herewith present a list, which may be an aid to many; and we believe it will be found worthy of general acceptance, since the selection is made from the experience of practical growers in all parts of the Northern States.

It is one of the peculiarities of our climate that a variety which succeeds well in one village or farm will fail even twenty miles away; while long lists of fruits which may be accepted at a convention of fruit-growers in the Eastern States will be curtailed by a convention in the Middle States, and be rejected altogether at the West. But the subjoined list will receive uniformly favorable testimony from a majority of growers.

APPLES.

SUMMER APPLES.—Red Astrachan, Large Sweet Bough, *Early Harvest, Golden Sweeting, William's Favorite.

AUTUMN APPLES.—Duchess of Oldenburg, *Fall Pippin, Gravenstein, Porter, King of Tompkins Co.

WINTER APPLES.—*Baldwin, Yellow Bellflower, Hubbardston Nonsuch, Northern Spy, Newtown Pippin, Rome Beauty, *Rhode Island Greening, Roxbury Russet, Newton Spitzenberg.

PEARS.

BEST VARIETIES.

SUMMER.—Bloodgood, *Bartlett, Doyenne D'Ete, Madeleine, Rostiegor, Tyson.

AUTUMN.—Buffum, Beurre Bose, Beurre D'Anjou, Beurre Diel, Belle Lucrative, Dix, *Duchess D'Angouleme, Doyenne Bounock, Flemish Beauty, Howell, *Louise Bonne de Jersey, Seckel.

WINTER.—Easter Beurre, *Gloub Morceau, Lawrence, Vicar of Winkfield.

CHERRIES.

Black Eagle, *Black Tartarian, Bleeding Heart, Coe's Transparent, Napoleon Begarreau, Elkhorn, *Knight's Early Black, Governor Wood, Kirtland's Mary.

APRICOTS.

*Breda, Du Bois Golden, Early Peach, Moorpark.

PLUMS.

Bleecker's Gage, *Bolmar's Washington, Coe's Golden Drop, Green Gage, Jefferson, *Imperial Gage, Red Gage.

NECTARINES.

Boston, Early Violet, Elruge, New White, Stanwick.

QUINCES.

*Orange.

CURRANTS

*Versailles, Cherry, Red Dutch.

GOOSEBERRIES.

Houghton's Seedling.

PEACHES.

ARRANGED IN ORDER OF RIPENING.

Hale's Early, Early York, Cole's Early Red, Troth's Early, *Large Early York, George the Fourth, *Crawford's Early, Morris White, Oldmixon Free, Smock, Ward's Late Free.

GRAPES.

*Concord, 1 year; Concord, 2 years; Concord, 3 years; *Delaware, 1 year; Diana, 1 year; Diana, 2 years; Hartford Prolific, 1 year; Hartford Prolific, 2 years; Iona, 1 year; Rebecca, 1 year.

STRAWBERRIES.

SELECT LIST OF BEST.—Agriculturist, *Brooklyn Scarlet, Downer's Prolific, Green Prolific, *Jucunda, Lady Finger, Monitor, New Jersey Scarlet, *Romeyn's Seedling, Russell's Prolific, Triomphe de Gand, *Wilson's Albany.

BLACKBERRIES.

Wilson Early, *Kittatiny.

RASPBERRIES.

*Philadelphia, *Clarke, Orange, Red Antwerp, *Doolittle Black Leaf, Mammoth Cluster.

In all this list we have named nothing of poor growth or inferior quality. If any one is puzzled to choose one single variety from each class, those marked with a *star* we would specially recommend for culture for family use; although every one of the rest is worthy also. Every family should choose a list of varieties, to ascertain which is best adapted to their soil and climate. The first year or two the test will be puzzling; after that experience will remove all doubts and fears.

THE YES-BUT GRUMBLERS.

BISHOP MCTYEIRE, in traveling through Texas, was strongly impressed with the general discontent which the people manifested. He writes to this effect:—

"The discontent of many of the inhabitants is profound, and it would be strongly against the country if one did not consider the underlying cause. With certain persons, in the absence of some one good, nothing is good. One pines for an apple orchard; his wife can't have any preserves as she used to. Another cannot forget the convenience of lightwood knots and spring water, and longs for a Carolina sandbank, where he can make five or six bushels of bubbin corn per acre. Some have more considerable objections. Here is the substance of a conversation with a well-to-do person:

"'This is a great country you live in,' said I.

"'Yes; but it's so far to town, or anywhere,' was the reply.

"'You have fine roads; I never saw their equal.'

"'Yes; but its terrible traveling when it rains.'

"'I never saw better beef than yours.'

"'Yes; but people don't wan't to eat nothing but beef.'

"'Such a delightful climate—your health is good.'

"'Yes; but the northers are awful on the constitution.'

"'Your land is rich; and it produces so abundantly.'

"'Yes; but the grasshoppers have eat up my greens-patch.'

"'Your hogs will fatten on the grasshoppers.'

"'Yes; but it worries 'em to death to catch the things.'

"'Your chickens are lively, they can catch 'em.'

"'Yes; but it makes their meat taste, so they say.'

By this time there was a twinkle of humor in the turn things had taken, and I took my leave.

"Good-by, my inconsolable friend; may you come to a more cheerful mind. Good-by, till we meet again.'

"'Yes; but we may never meet again in this world.'"

Texas is not the only state which includes in her population grumblers of this sort. They are found in all classes of society, North and South, and conspire by their piteous maunderings as much against the peace and happiness of others as the outlaws and bravoes who hold the orderly and well-to-do their natural prey. —*Phren. Jour.*

CRACK IN A HOG-TROUGH.

A FEW days ago a friend sent me word that every day he gave nearly twenty pails of buttermilk to a lot of "shoats," and they scarcely improved at all. Thinks I, this is a breed of hogs worth seeing. They must be of the sheet-iron kind. So I called on him, heard him repeat the mournful story, and then visited the sty, in order to get a better view of the miraculous swine. I went into the pen; and, on close examination, found a crack in the trough, through which most of the contents ran away under the floor. Thinks I, here is the type of the failures of our agricultural brethren.

When I see a farmer omitting all improvements because of a little cost; selling all his farm stock, to buy bank or railroad stock or mortgage stock; robbing his land, while, in reality, he is also robbing himself and his heir—thinks I, my friend, you have a crack in your hog-trough.

When I see a farmer subscribing for half a dozen political and miscellaneous papers, and spending all his time in reading them, while he doesn't read a single agricultural or horticultural journal, thinks I to myself, poor man, you have got a large and wide crack in your hog-trough.

When I see a farmer attending all the political conventions, and coming down liberally with the "dust" on all caucus conventions, and knowing every man in town that votes his ticket, and yet to own his neck, couldn't tell who was president of his county agricultural society, or where the fair was held last year, I "unanimously" come to the conclusion that the poor soul has got a crack in his hog-trough.

When I see a farmer buying guano, and wasting ashes and hen-manure; trying all sorts of experiments except intelligent hard work and economy; getting the choicest of seeds, regardless of cost, then planting them regardless of cultivation; growing the variety of fruit called Sour Tart Seedling, and sweetening it with sugar, pound for pound; keeping the front fields rich while the back lots are growing up with thistles, briers, and elders; contributing to the Choctaw Indian fund, and never giving a cent to any agricultural society—such a man, I will give a written guarantee, has got a crack in his hog-trough, and in his head also.

When I see a farmer allowing loose boards all over his yard, fences down, hinges off the gate, manure in the barnyard, I come to the conclusion that he has got a large crack in his hog-trough.

When I see a farmer spending his time traveling in a carriage, when he has to sell all his corn to pay the hired help, and his hogs are so lean that they have to lean against the fence to squeal, I rather lean to the conclusion that somebody that stays at home will have a lien on the farm, and that some day the bottom will come entirely out of his hog-trough.—*Prairie Farmer.*

RURAL ITEMS.

A GENTLEMAN writing from Illinois to a friend in Boston says: While out hunting two weeks ago, I was in some corn-fields which belong to a man named Sullivan. He probably owns more land than any farmer in the state. He is proprietor of nine townships each six miles square. This year he has 25,000 acres in corn. This seems like a big story, but is nevertheless true. It was just the easiest thing in the world to get lost in his corn-fields. I strayed into one of his fields, and walked four and a half miles before I came to the end of the row of corn which I followed.

THE *Georgia Constitutionalist* attacks the system of "worm" or common rail-fencing as follows: "There are at least 500,000 miles of fencing in the State of Georgia. The number of rails required for a ten-rail fence for one mile is about 9,000, and for all the Georgia fences 4,500,000,000. The value of these, taking into account the worth of the timber, the splitting, hauling, and putting up, is about $500 per mile—amounting in the aggregate to the sum of $25,000,000. The average duration of these fences is about seven years. The annual interest of the investment, at 26 per cent., allowing 13 per cent. for decay, is $5,000,000." The editor urges that herding stock would be cheaper than the use of fences.

A PROCESS has been discovered in Paris for the prevention of the decay of wood. As the result of a five-years experience, a paint is recommended which at the same time possesses the advantage of being impervious to water. It is composed of fifty parts of tar, forty parts of finely-crushed chalk, five hundred parts of fine, white, hard sand, four parts of linseed oil, one part of the red oxide of copper in its native state, and, finally, one part of sulphuric acid. In order to manufacture the paint from this multiplicity of materials, the tar, chalk, sand, and oil are first heated in an iron kettle; the oxide and sulphuric acid are then added with a great deal of caution. The mass is very carefully mixed and applied while hot. When thoroughly dry this paint is as hard as a stone.

STICK TO ONE THING.—There are many farmers who do nothing long enough to make it pay, and consequently they lose in everything. At one time they conclude to devote themselves to stock-raising. Before they get fairly under good headway in this, they change their minds and go back to raising grain. Some make a specialty, for a time, of a certain crop—wheat, corn, or potatoes, for instance. While they are following this specialty, the crops may be small and the prices low; and they turn to another, just in time to miss large crops and good prices for what they have left.

The best farmers, we have observed, are those who first find out what their soil is best adapted to produce. They then turn their energies in that direction and go straightforward in that line. A poor crop does not discourage them. Low prices do not discourage them. They keep on, and are sure to be finally successful.

To illustrate our idea:—We once knew a farmer who always made it a point to fatten from twenty-five to thirty hogs every year. Let the price of pork be high or low, he every year had his lot of hogs of about the usual number. He took great pride in having the best in the neighborhood. Some years, perhaps, he might have done better by selling his corn, instead of feeding it. Some years, perhaps, he might have done better by turning his whole attention to some other specialty in farming. But we should always notice this, that, taking one year with another for a long time, say ten years, he made the hogs pay. He was a successful farmer.

AGRICULTURAL.

RAMSDELL'S NORWAY OATS.

A. S. MILLER, Esq., in a late letter to the editor of The Rochester *Farmer*, states that he never pronounced the Norway Oats a humbug, as was reported in the New York papers. On the contrary, he says: "If they will produce five bushels to the acre more than any other kinds, they are worth more than $10 per bushel." Mr. S. A. Dolph, of Miller Co., Mo., writes, Jan. 2, 1869: "I raised last season 84 bushels from one pint, and 60 bushels from half a bushel of seed, both inferior crops on account of the drought."

G. F. Smith, a Vermont farmer, stated before the New York Farmers' Club, Jan. 15, 1869, that he raised *126 bushels from one peck of seed on 100 square rods of ground.*

We have evidence now before us which proves that many hundred bushels of inferior seed has already been sold for Norway Oats. We again caution farmers against these imposters, and will not hold ourselves responsible for any seed which has not passed through our hands. Our full illustrated circular is furnished free to all who desire it. Our seed is fully warranted, and furnished at $10 per bushel, $6 per half bushel, $4 per peck, or $1 25 per quart, by mail, postpaid. Sold by the standard of 32 pounds to the bushel. Address JONES & CLARK, only Agents for the U. S. and Canada, No. 20 Liberty street, N. Y.

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GEORGE W. LANE	Geo. W. Lane & Co.
CHAS. COREY TABER	C. C. & H. M. Taber.
SAMUEL D. BABCOCK	Babcock, Brother & Co.
HENRY C. BOWEN	Henry C. Bowen.
AUGUSTUS H. HULL	Fairmonkock, Hull & Co.
JAMES FRASER	Fraser, Major & Co.
WILLIAM M. VAIL	
HIRAM BARNEY	Barney, Butler & Parsons.
LAWRENCE TURNURE	Moses Taylor & Co.
SHEPPARD GANDY	Shepperd Gandy.
GEORGE GRISWOLD	N. L. & G. Griswold.
SAMUEL A. SAWYER	Sawyer, Wallace Co.
CYRUS CURTISS	President Washington Life Ins. Co.
WILLIAM D. MORGAN	W. E. & Morgan & Son.
WM. ALLEN BUTLER	
URIEL A. MERDOCK	President Continental Bank.
B. H. ARNOLD	President of Mercantile Bank.
CHARLES LAMSON	C. H. Marshall & Co.
L. S. BIGELOW	Late Firm of Bigelow & Parsons.
WELLINGTON CLAPP	Late Clapp & Kent.
SHADRICH JOHNSON	Johnson & Quintard.
JOHN CASWELL	John Caswell & Co.
HENRY F. SPAULDING	Spaulding, Hunt & Co.
JOHN PAINE	
JOSEPH HATFIELD	Egleston, Buttell & Co.
ROBERT H. MCCURDY	late McCurdy, Aldrich & Spencer.
GEORGE N. STEPHENSON	George S. Stephenson & Co.
GEORGE MOSLE	E. Pavenstedt & Co.
WM. M. RICHARDS	Richards & Collins.
JOHN H. EARLE	Earl & Cunningham.
HENRY EYRE	
CHARLES H. BOOTH	Charles H. Booth & Co.
EDWARD MARTIN	Crazin & Co.
HORACE B. CLAFLIN	H. B. Claflin & Co.

CYRUS PECK Secretary.

Atlantic Mutual Insurance Co.

NEW YORK, January 30th, 1869.

The Trustees, in conformity to the Charter of the Company, submit the following Statement of its affairs on the 31st December, 1868.

Premiums received on Marine Risks, from 1st January, 1868, to 31st Dec., 1868	$6,782,969 82
Premiums on Policies not marked off 1st Jan.	2,973,092 30
Total amount of Marine Premiums	$9,756,062 12
No Policies have been issued upon Life Risks, nor upon Fire Risks disconnected with Marine Risks.	
Premiums marked off from 1st January, 1868, to 31st December, 1868	$6,373,979 80
Losses paid during the same period	$3,061,080 49
Returns of Premiums and Expenses	$1,383,350 61

The Company has the following Assets, viz.:

United States and State of New York Stock, City, Bank, and other Stocks	$2,587,435 00
Loans, secured by Stocks, and otherwise	3,216,196 00
Real Estate and Bonds and Mortgages	210,000 00
Interest, and sundry notes and claims due the Company, estimated at	200,000 00
Premium Notes and Bills Receivable	2,563,393 13
Cash in Bank	1,548,848 80
Total Amount of Assets	$13,660,861 29

Six per cent. interest on the outstanding certificates of profits will be paid to the holders thereof, or their legal representatives, on and after Tuesday, the Second of February next.

The outstanding certificates of the issue of 1865 will be redeemed and paid to the holders there of, or their legal representatives, on and after Tuesday, the Second of February next, from which date all interest thereon will cease. The certificates to be produced at the time of payment, and cancelled.

A dividend of Forty per cent. is declared on the net earned premiums of the Company for the year ending 31st December, 1868, for which certificates will be issued on and after Tuesday, the Sixth of April next.

By order of the Board,
J. H. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

TRUSTEES:

JOHN D. JONES,	HENRY K. BOGERT,
CHARLES DENNIS,	DENNIS PERKINS,
W. H. H. MOORE,	JOSEPH GAILLARD, Jr.
HENRY COIT,	C. A. HAND,
WM. C. PICKERSGILL,	B. J. HOWLAND,
LEWIS CURTIS,	BENJ. BABCOCK,
CHARLES H. RUSSELL,	ROBT. B. MINTURN, Jr.,
LOWELL HOLBROOK,	GORDON W. BURNHAM,
R. WARREN WESTON,	FREDERICK CHAUNCEY,
ROYAL PHELPS,	JAMES LOW,
CALEB BARSTOW,	GEORGE S. STEPHENSON,
A. P. PILLOT,	WILLIAM H. WEBB,
WILLIAM E. DODGE,	PAUL SPOFFORD,
ROBT. C. FERGUSSON,	SHEPPARD GANDY,
DAVID LANE,	ROBERT L. TAYLOR,
JAMES BRYCE,	SAMUEL G. WARD,
FRANCIS SKIDDY,	WILLIAM R. BUNKER,
DANIEL S. MILLER,	SAMUEL L. MITCHILL,
WM. STURGIS,	JAMES G. DE FOREST,
CHAS. P. BURDETT.	

JOHN D. JONES, President.
CHARLES DENNIS, Vice-President.
W. H. H. MOORE, 2d Vice-President.
J. D. HEWLETT, 3d Vice-President.

HOME
Insurance Company

Offices No. 135 Broadway, New York, and 151 Montague St., Brooklyn.

Cash Capital - $2,000,000 00

Assets Jan'y 1, 1869 - -	3,966,282 30
Liabilities - - - - - -	106,837 43

Desiring to deal directly with its Customers, this Company will hereafter make a rebate from the Premium on Risks in the City, equal to the Commission heretofore paid as Brokerage.

CHAS. J. MARTIN, President.
A. F. WILLMARTH, Vice-Pres't.
D. A. HEALD, 2d Vice-Pres't.
J. H. WASHBURN, Secretary
GEO. M. LYON, Assistant Secretary.
T. B. GREENE, 2d Assistant Secretary.

SECURITY
INSURANCE COMPANY,
119 Broadway, N. Y.

ASSETS, JAN. 1, 1869, $1,796,611 91.

FIRE AND INLAND INSURANCE ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS.

A. F. HASTINGS, President.
W. B. BUCKHOUT, Vice-President.
FRANK W. BALLARD, Secretary.
NATHAN HARPER, Ass't Secretary

SECURITY
Life Insurance
AND
ANNUITY COMPANY,
31 and 33 Pine Street,
NEW YORK.

OFFICERS:

ROBERT L. CASE, President.
THEO. R. WETMORE, Vice-Pres't.
ISAAC H. ALLEN, Secretary.

DIRECTORS:

EDWARD HAIGHT,
EDWARD WOOD,
CHARLES R. SWORDS,
JOHN F. UNDERHILL,
ROBT. LINDLEY MURRAY,
FRANCIS T. WALKER,
WILLIAM BURRARD,
JOHN H. DRAPER,
JOSEPH F. KNAPP,
JAMES M. DRAKE,
JAMES BERRY,
FRANCIS PAYSON,
AUGUSTUS TABER,
JOHN W. GRAYDON,
ISAAC W. RUSHMORE, Brooklyn, L. I.
NATH. R. WEED, Darien, Ct.,
WM. H. WILLIS, New Hamburgh, N. Y.,
GEORGE W. INGE, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.,
ROBERT BOWNE,
CHARLES T. GOODWIN,
SIDNEY WINTERINGHAM,
EDWARD MARSHALL,
ROBERT L. CASE,
THEODORE R. WETMORE,
ISAAC H. ALLEN,
J. NELSON TAPPAN,
EDMUND TITUS,
CHARLES BELLOWS,
REUBEN H. UNDERHILL,
JOHN T. WILLETS,
A. R. WETMORE,
ROBERT B. ROWLAND,
SANDFORD R. KNAPP, Peekskill, N. Y.
JAMES BIGLER, Newburgh, N. Y.
DAVID MOORE,
EDWARD C. JONES, New Bedford, Mass.

No Restriction on Travel, except in the Tropics.

Policies Incontestable after Three Annual Payments, except in case of Fraud.

This Company offers as great inducements to those PAYING THEIR PREMIUMS ALL

IN CASH

as any in the country, at the same time giving them the privilege of availing themselves of the

LOAN,

should the necessity arise.

ALL POLICIES ARE NON-FORFEITING AFTER THREE YEARLY CASH PAYMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

The Progress of this Company is Shown by Table the Annexed:

Year.	New Policies.	No. of Policies issued each year.	Gross Receipts.	Amount insured by New Policies.	Total Gross Assets.	Increase over previous year in Gross Assets.
1862.	211	211	$80,000	$600,000	$200,000	
1863.	888	1,099	280,429	2,600,000	1,000,000	$800,000
1864.	1,403	2,502	1,000,000	6,000,000	2,500,000	1,500,000
1865.	2,305	4,807	1,600,000	10,000,000	4,000,000	1,500,000
1866.	2,193	6,000	2,000,000	12,000,000	5,000,000	1,000,000
1867.	2,348	8,348	2,783,333	16,700,000	6,783,333	1,783,333
1868.	2,755	11,103	3,701,000	22,206,000	9,484,333	2,701,000

For General or District Agencies apply to the offices of the Company, Nos. 31 and 33 Pine street, N. Y.

☞ Liberal Commissions to experienced Agents.

MARINE INSURANCE.

OFFICE OF THE
SUN
MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
(Incorporated May 22d, 1841.)
No. 52 Wall Street.

Cash Capital paid up - -	$500,000 00
Surplus 1st Jan., 1869 - - -	531,167 17
Total Assets - - - -	$1,031,167 17

NEW YORK, Jan. 23d, 1869.

The following statement of the affairs of this Company on the 31st of December, 1868, is published in conformity with the requirements of the 10th Section of the Act of its incorporation:

Premiums on Unexpired Risks, Dec. 31st, 1867	$229,594 54
Premiums received during the year ending Dec. 31st, 1868:	
On Marine Risks	$634,680 87
On Inland Risks	14,707 97—$39,388 84
Total Premiums	$861,980 38
Marked off as earned during the year 1868	$656,574 79
Return Premiums during the year	$76,815 63
Losses incurred during the year (including estimates for all disasters reported):	
On Marine Risks	$614,294 99
On Inland Risks	2,118 43—316,413 42
Expenses, Re Insurances, Taxes, Commissions, Abatements in lieu of Scrip, etc	100,728 89
	$492,957 44

The Assets of the Company on the 31st Dec., 1868, were as follows:

U. S. 5-20 Bonds	$340,400 00
U. S. 10-40 Bonds	164,600 00
	$505,000 00
City Bonds and other Stocks	11,732,00
Bonds and Mortgages	26,000 00
Cash on deposit and loans on demand secured by Bonds and Stocks	62,292 62
	$605,044 62
Premium Notes and Bills Receivable not matured	154,974 91
Subscription Notes	111,166 35
Cash Premiums in course of collection and accrued interest on Loans and Stocks	21,168 25
Sundry Salvage, Reinsurance, and other claims due the Company, estimated at	138,813 04
Total Assets remaining with the Company on the 31st Dec., 1868	$1,031,167 17

No Fire Risks have been taken by the Company during the year, except in connection with Marine Risks.

In view of the foregoing result, the Board of Trustees have this day

Resolved, That a PROFIT DIVIDEND OF FOUR PER CENT. in Cash be paid to the Stockholders on demand, free of Government TAX, in addition to the interest dividend of Seven per cent. paid in July and January.

Also, That a SCRIP DIVIDEND OF TWENTY PER CENT., free of Government Tax, be declared on the net earned premiums entitled to participation for the year 1868, for which Certificates may be issued on and after the first day of April next.

By order of the Board.
ISAAC H. WALKER, Secretary.

TRUSTEES.

MOSES H. GRINNELL,	WM. TORT,
JOHN P. PAULISON,	THOMAS J. SLAGHTER,
JOHN F. BEVLIN,	JOSEPH GAILLARD, JR.,
JACOB D. VERMILYE,	ALEX. M. LAWRENCE,
WILLIAM H. MACY,	ISAAC BELL,
FRED. G. FOSTER,	ELLIOT C. LOWDIN,
RICHARDSON T. WILSON,	PERCY R. PYNE,
JOHN H. MACY,	SAMUEL M. FOX,
HENRY FORSTER HITCH,	JOSEPH V. ONATIVIA,
ELIAS PORTER,	EDWARD S. JAFFRAY,
SIMON DE VISSER,	WILLIAM OOTHOUT,
WM. R. PRESTON,	ERNEST CAYLUS,
ISAAC A. CRANE,	FREDERICK CHAUNCEY,
A. YZNAGA DEL VALLE,	GEO. L. KINGSLAND,
JOHN S. WRIGHT,	JAMES F. PENEMAN,
WM. VON SACHS,	FREDERIC STURGIS,
PHILIP DATER,	ANSON G. P. STOKES.

MOSES H. GRINNELL, President.
JOHN P. PAULISON, Vice-President.
ISAAC H. WALKER, Secretary.

FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE.

METROPOLITAN
INSURANCE COMPANY.
No. 108 Broadway, New York.
Capital, $300,000.

INSURES FIRE RISKS AT CUSTOMARY RATES, ALSO MARINE RISKS ON CARGO AND FREIGHT ONLY.

JAMES LORIMER GRAHAM, President.
ROBERT M. C. GRAHAM, Vice-President.
W. S. NEWELL, Secretary.

THE EQUITABLE
LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES.
No. 92 BROADWAY, N. Y.

WM. C. ALEXANDER, *President.*
HENRY B. HYDE, *Vice-President.*
GEORGE W. PHILLIPS, *Actuary.*
JAS. W. ALEXANDER, *Secretary.*

Cash Assets, - - $8,000,000.

Annual Premium Income, $5,000,000.

Sum Assured (New Business) during the year ending January 31st, 1868,

$47,020,134.

IT ISSUES ALL DESIRABLE NON-FORFEITING POLICIES

on a Single Life, from $250 to $25,000.

All Profits Divided Among Policyholders Annually from the start.

IT IS THE MOST SUCCESSFUL COMPANY EVER ORGANIZED, AND, FOR ITS YEARS,

The Largest Mutual Life Insurance Company in the World!

☞ To secure a Policy in the Equitable, apply at the office, No. 92 Broadway, N. Y., or to any of the Society's Agents throughout the United States.

☞ Agents wishing to represent the EQUITABLE are invited to make application for appointment, by letter, to the New York office.

Mercantile Mutual
(MARINE)
INSURANCE COMPANY.
NO. 35 WALL STREET,
NEW YORK.

Capital, - - $1,000,000.
Assets, - - - 1,500,000.

This Company takes Marine and Inland Navigation Risks on Merchandize, Freight, and Hulls of Vessels. On the payment of Premiums a Rebate or Discount on the current rates is made in cash, as an equivalent for the Scrip Dividends of a Mutual Company. The amount of such rebate being fixed according to the character of the business given to dealers a more just apportionment of profits than by the mutual system; and, being *made in cash*, on payment of the Premiums, is more than equivalent to the *cash value* of the average Scrip Dividends of Mutual Companies.

Policies issued, making loss payable in Gold in this City, or in Sterling at the Office of the Company's Bankers in Liverpool, if desired.

TRUSTEES:

JAMES FREELAND,	GEO. W. HENNINGS,
SAMUEL WILLETS,	A. FOSTER HIGGINS,
ROBERT L. TAYLOR,	FRANCIS HATHAWAY,
WM. T. FROST,	AARON L. REID,
WILLIAM WATT,	HENRY EYRE,
CORNELIUS GRINNELL,	JOSEPH BLAGG,
JAMES D. FISH,	EDWARD MERRITT,
ELLWOOD WALTER,	DANIEL T. WILLETS,
D. COLDEN MURRAY,	C. EDGERTON,
BRYCE GRAY,	HENRY B. KUNHARDT,
N. L. MCCREADY,	JOHN S. WILLIAMS,
WILLIAM NELSON, Jr.,	CHARLES DIMON,
HAROLD DOLLNER,	PAUL N. SPOFFORD,
JOS. WILLETS.	

ELLWOOD WALTER, President.
ARCH. G. MONTGOMERY, Jr., Vice-President
ALANSON W. HEGEMAN, 2d Vice-President.
C. J. DESPARD, Secretary.

COLUMBIA FIRE
INSURANCE COMPANY
OF
NEW YORK.
Office No. 161 Broadway, N. Y.

CASH CAPITAL	$200,000 00
SURPLUS	55,472 80
CAPITAL AND SURPLUS, April 1st, 1867	$255,472 80

ALFRED DOUGLAS, President.
JOHN B. ARTHUR, Secretary.
D. B. SATTERLEE, Assistant Secretary.

THE UNIVERSAL
Life Insurance Company,
NEW YORK.
Office, No. 69 Liberty Street.

THE ORIGINAL JOINT STOCK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE UNITED STATES.

TO AGENTS.

The attention of canvassers is especially directed to the

RETURN PREMIUM PLAN,

(*Originally devised and first carried into operation by this Company,*) as one of the most satisfactory methods of Life Insurance yet offered to the public.

By this method of Insurance the amount of the Policy is secured simply by the temporary deposit of the annual premiums, which are returned in full, together with the amount assured, to the holder of the Policy when it shall become a claim upon the Company.

EXAMPLE.

Should a person, aged 30, insure for $10,000, paying an annual premium of $255, and die during the first year thereafter, his representatives would receive from the Company $10,255. Should the insured live to pay ten annual premiums, or $3,550, his policy would be good for $12,550; and so on.

Attention, however, is especially directed to this method of Insurance in

GORHAM Mfg Co.

STERLING SILVER WARE

AND

Fine Electro-Plated WARE.

THE GORHAM MANUFACTURING CO., OF PROVIDENCE, R. I., having the largest manufactory of Solid Silver Ware in the world, with the most improved machinery, and employing the most skilled labor, are enabled to offer an unequaled variety of new and beautiful designs in Dinner Services, Tea Services, and every article specially adapted for Holiday and Bridal Gifts.

They offer also their well-known and unrivaled Nickel Silver Electro-Plated Ware, in which they have introduced new patterns of rare elegance. The Solid Silver is guaranteed to be of sterling purity by U. S. Mint assay. The Electro-Plate is guaranteed to be superior to the finest Sheffield ware. Orders received from the Trade only, but these goods may be obtained from responsible dealers everywhere.

Trade Mark for Silver. GORHAM MFG CO. Trade Mark for Electro-Plate.

GORHAM MANUFACTURING CO., SALESROOM NO. 3 MAIDEN LANE, N. Y.

The Gorham Ware

May be Obtained from

ADAMS, CHANDLER & Co.,

No. 20 John Street, New York.

TURNER BROS.,

Bankers,

COR. NASSAU AND PINE STS.,

Opposite U. S. Treasury, N. Y.,

Buy and Sell at Market Prices Government Bonds of all issues and all kinds of first-class Securities.

Deposits received, pnd Collections made in all parts of the United States and Canadas.

N. B.—California Pacific Railroad Bonds bought and sold at market rates.

REYNOLDS' TURBINE WATER-WHEELS.

No Complex, Duplex, or Tri-plex complications. All such are costly, perishable, easily clogged, inaccessible.

Mill Gearing, Shafting, and Pulleys. Send for illustrated pamphlet.

GEORGE TALLCOT, 90 Liberty st., N. Y.

OTIS SAFETY HOISTING MACHINERY.

OTIS BROS. & CO., No. 309 Broadway, New York.

Waltham Watches

ARE THE BEST AND THE CHEAPEST.

PACIFIC

NSURANCE COMPANY

OF

SAN FRANCISCO.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS IN GOLD $1,350,000.

DIRECTORS IN NEW YORK.

LOUIS McLANE, Esq., Pres't. WELLS, FARGO & Co.
J. LEES, Esq., of Lees & Waller.
FREDERICK BILLINGS, Esq.
WILLIAM T. COLEMAN, Esq.
D. O. KELLOGG, Esq.
MOSES ELLIS, Esq., Boston.

Stockholders of this Company are individually liable for its debts, in addition to which $150,000 will be held in the State of New York for the security of Policy-holders.

FRAME, HARE & LOCKWOOD,

GENERAL AGENTS,

No. 202 Broadway.

AGENTS WANTED.

A POPULAR, PROGRESSIVE, AND SUCCESSFUL

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK,

being about to redistrict its territory, finds itself in want of five, responsible, and experienced men as

General and Local Agents

in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, New Hampshire, Nebraska, and Maine.

Solicitors and Canvassers, and Local Agents, wanting a new or larger field, will find this a splendid opening

Address, with particulars,

BOX No. 3005, Post-Office,

NEW YORK CITY.

Financial & Commercial.

RATES OF INTEREST.

One of the essential powers of money consists in the fact that it can be loaned as a *principal* for an income in the form of *interest* paid for its use. The amount of interest paid in a given time determines the degree of rapidity with which money accumulates as the result of interest. The higher the rate of interest, of course, the greater the value of the principal to the lender, and the greater the demand upon the labor of the borrower to meet this claim. Money, for example, when it earns for the lender ten per cent. per annum, is to him worth twice as much as it is when it earns only five per cent.; and its use ought to be proportionately valuable to the borrower. The *nominal* sum may be the same in both cases; yet in the one case its capability of increase by interest is just twice what it is in the other. A dollar that by interest will earn two dollars in the same period that another earns one has just double its value. The value of the dollar rises or falls with the rate of interest paid for its use, just as the value of a house rises or falls with the annual rent that it yields.

We hence see that this question of interest to be paid by the borrower to the lender has a most vital relation to both. Just in proportion as we increase the power of money to accumulate by interest, we increase the burdens of the former and the profits of the latter, and also add to its ordinary control, as a medium of exchange, over all kinds of property. If, for a rule, the rate of interest be so high that the borrower cannot so employ money as to pay the interest on its use, and at the same time leave an adequate surplus to compensate him for his time and labor, then it is manifest that money used in the form of *loans* must have a decided advantage over *labor* expended upon borrowed capital. The products of the labor are not sufficient to pay the interest and suitably reward the laborer. Such being the state of the facts, the lending classes are constantly enriching themselves at the expense of the borrowing and producing classes.

Let us suppose fifty men at the age of twenty-one, each one of whom is worth $10,000. Their aggregate wealth is $500,000. They loan this sum to fifty other men, at the rate of seven per cent. per annum, who use the money for the purposes of business. As fast as the interest becomes due, they loan it also to the same borrowers; and this process they continue for forty years and four months. At the end of this period, the borrowers are called upon to pay the original principal and all the accruing interest. What is the amount they will have to pay? In the first place they must return the principal of $500,000; and, in addition to this, they must pay $7,500,000 as the interest-accumulation upon this principal—thus making each of the lenders worth $160,000 at the age of sixty-one years and four months. Can the fifty borrowers do this, and yet have anything left to represent the accumulation of their *labor* in the use of borrowed capital? We do not believe they can. We very much doubt whether they would be able to pay their debts. What they gain by the labor of forty years and four months is simply their own living; and this they could have gained by the same amount of labor without using borrowed capital. If we suppose the lenders to support themselves by their own labor, then, when the account is settled, they are rich men; and the borrowers and actual producers of their wealth, who have labored for the same period, are poor.

The same result would ensue, if we suppose the first fifty men to own fifty *farms*, each worth $10,000, which they rent to the second fifty, with the understanding that each of these farms is to double itself in every ten years and one month, and that every added farm is to do the same thing, until the expiration of forty years and four months. Then the first fifty farms are to be returned to their owners; and 750 more farms are also to be transferred to these owners as the accumulation by rent. How many farms will the fifty lessees have left after meeting the claims of the fifty lessors? Is there any system of agricultural production that can endure such a rate of rent for the use of land? The principle is precisely the same, and must be followed by the same result, whatever may be the *kind* of property to which it applies, whether it be land, or houses, or money.

The real cause that lies at the bottom of this result consists in the simple fact that the accumulation of property as the fruit of *labor* applied to borrowed capital is not proportionate to the accumulation of *money* when loaned at the rate of seven per cent. per annum. No kind of labor can afford, in the long run, to pay so high a rate of interest. It gives too great an advantage to the lenders in proportion to the advantages enjoyed by the producing classes. It makes money too dear for the best good of the greatest number of persons, and tends largely to the accumulation of wealth in the hands of the few. We have no hostility to capital or capitalists; yet, in our judgment, the average rates of interest in this country ought to be very materially reduced. The present rates, as fixed by law, constitute a very serious evil in our monetary system. They embarrass business while they overtax labor.

It is more and more evident, day by day, that the Government is paying far too much for the use of money; and we do not hesitate to say that our whole national debt could, under skillful management, be funded at *four per cent. interest*. But it can never be done by any blundering process contemplating a reduction of our currency and the curtailing of business.

USING SURPLUS GOLD.

Why don't Congress instruct the Secretary of the Treasury to use our surplus gold in discounting the early-maturing coupons attached to all our Government bonds? Why lose the interest on the money? Why keep it a single day? It is held to pay interest; and why not, then, pay it *now*, and have done with it. We defy any congressman to give a single valid reason why $75,000,000 in gold should remain thus idle. Discount the coupons, we say, most emphatically, and let loose these millions upon the market. If this should be done, gold would tumble down so fast that the speculators would speedily rush one side, and look for other business. Messrs. Lawmakers in Washington, there is *no excuse whatever* for not thus using every dollar of gold in the Treasury. Is not a couple of millions, in the way of interest, worth saving, when it can be done without a *particle of risk*? We challenge you, any one of you, to show why this suggestion should not be *immediately* adopted. If you are gold speculators, of course, you are opposed to this measure. You cannot be otherwise.

After thus using all the gold on hand, then we are in favor of receiving early-maturing coupons at the custom-house for duties. Let us go to work like practical business men, and we shall soon be able to resume specie payments. That day never will come by any process of *hoarding* the precious metals in the Treasury. Make gold plenty, with the people, legalize all gold contracts, use all surplus gold as fast as received in discounting early cupons, receive early coupons for duties at the custom-house, and we could resume specie payments in less than *twelve months*. Suppose the plan we propose should utterly fail, we defy any sane man to show wherein the country would suffer, either in money or credit, to the extent of a single dollar. But it would not fail. With all our surplus gold turned into the channels of business, *to stay there*, who would dare to buy gold on speculation? Nobody. It would go down right speedily, and no earthly power could prevent it. We call for the previous question. Are you ready for the vote?

NORWICH AND WORCESTER RAILROAD.

This corporation, it appears, has leased their whole property to the Boston, Hartford, and Erie Railroad for ninety-nine years, in consideration of a guarantee of ten per cent. annual dividend on their whole capital stock. This may be called a good bargain for both parties.

We now hope a new and more liberal policy will be promptly adopted on this Norwich and Worcester road. New depots and better freight and passenger accommodations are wanted at the earliest possible moment. A more miserable shanty than that at Norwich, called a depot, can scarcely be found in all the nation. It is hardly fit for a Texas engine-house, and has long been known to the public as "Mudhole Depot." Those who approach it or depart from it *once* never desire to visit it again. The depots at Putnam, Webster, and several other places are also a disgrace to the corporation and a disgrace to the highly-respectable towns in which they are located. They should all be abated as public nuisances; and as to the Mudhole Depot of Norwich, we will say that we are ready, as a last resort, to join the good people of that Eden city in raising by public subscription a fund to build a decent edifice there for the public—one that can be approached in safety, night or day, by *dry land*.

One other most important thing should be promptly done, if any local passenger traffic through the summer is desired. The morning accommodation train from New London should start so as to connect, *without detention*, with the 6 o'clock train north from Norwich, and the evening accommodation train from Worcester should go direct to New London, making that city its *stopping* and *starting* place. The old-fashioned way, since the birth of the oldest Norwich inhabitant, has been to *compel* way passengers to rise and leave the boat a little after midnight, and then go to Norwich and wait there at the dark, dismal, cold, sepulchral Mudhole Depot until 6 o'clock before they could get away. Way passengers in the northern evening train have also been compelled to stop in Norwich several hours for the express train. Why not permit the accommodation train to go *directly to the boat at New London*, and not oblige men, women, and infant children to pass weary hours at Mudhole Depot? As things have been and now are, the public have anything but *accommodation* on this Norwich and Worcester Railroad. And it is high time that there was a change of policy. We have said before, and we now say again, having had some experience in such matters, that there is not in all New England, we honestly believe, a railroad where *way passengers* are subjected to so much annoyance and inconvenience as on the Norwich and Worcester.

There is no portion of the country more beautiful, attractive, or healthy than Eastern Connecticut; and people from this city would flock there in the summer, by thousands, if they had *proper facilities to get there*. One experiment in the past has generally been sufficient. Instead of *attracting* visitors, the bad management of the road has actually *driven away* summer travel. We know whereof we affirm. There is fault somewhere, and we most respectfully appeal to the New Management to make the needful changes. We vote for *entire reconstruction*, with the view of keeping up with the age; and, lest we may be misinterpreted, we will say that we do not wish to reflect on any single individual—especially the president of the road, who, so far as we know, is actually the cleverest man in the whole city of Norwich.

CERTIFYING CHECKS.

Congress is now making an attempt to prevent our banks from certifying checks, unless the money is on hand to meet them. Such a law, if passed, could be evaded, and honestly too, as easy as a congressman can do sundry strange and dishonest things not to be named at this writing. Bank-officers sometimes make mistakes in certifying checks, although not often; while congressmen make both blundering and wicked mistakes at the Capital, almost daily. We vote for the banks who understand their business, rather than the congressmen who, taken "by and large," don't know their A, B, C's on financial questions. These wise theory-builders don't agree on any *two* of them, any more than the Babel-builders did in attempting to speak the same language. Whether there was greater "confusion" at Babel than at Washington we are unable to judge, *positively;* but are inclined to believe they had a better understanding of each other at Babel than our financiers have at the Capital.

It was said of John C. Calhoun that, when he took a pinch of snuff, all South Carolina sneezed. Now it may be said that when a congressman speaks on financial questions all the business world laughs. Shut your mouths, gentlemen. Let us have peace—and be sober.

FINANCIAL BILLS IN CONGRESS.

Among the important bills introduced into Congress the present session touching our finances, was the measure proposed by Mr. Barnes which passed the House on Saturday, prohibiting the national banks from making loans of currency on their own bills. An equally important bill was one restricting secret sales of gold by the Treasury, but passing it at this late day, just as the party in power, who have done all the mischief, are going out of office, is locking the stable-door after the horse has been stolen. The failure to pass this measure two years ago is one of the sins of the Fortieth Congress. The bill to restrain banks from certifying checks, unless the drawers have funds to meet them in bank, is a very useless piece of work. The banks may safely be allowed to manage the matter of paying checks. But the bill changing the quarterly statement of the bank to a monthly statement may be considered a good measure. We do not, however, consider it of any great importance. Congress is to be commended for passing so many sound financial measures in one day, and we trust that the Senate will get through with them in time to give the President an opportunity to sign them.

MONEY MARKET.

Another unfavorable bank report, showing a considerable loss both in gold and greenbacks by our Associated Banks, though it created a slight feeling of uneasiness among borrowers, did not really produce any unfavorable effect upon rates, which have continued at 6 to 7 per cent., with a rather sharper demand for money than is usual at the close of the week.

The bank statement shows a decrease in loans of $2,161,325; of specie, $2,085,078; of deposits, $3,625,089; of legal-tenders, $1,089,181. The only item of increase is in the circulation, which amounts to $17,015. But, the causes of the changes being well understood, there is nothing in them calculated to create anything like a feeling of alarm. Gold is rapidly accumulating here, and at the present rate of our bonds in Europe it will pay to ship it here; something more than a million of dollars was received last week by steamers, and more is now on the way. The tremendous contest that is going on between the bulls and bears in the Gold Room is a cause of special interest to well-informed money dealers on both sides of the Atlantic. It seems scarcely possible that the present rate can be much longer maintained, with our bonds ruling at the existing high rates, and with every prospect of still higher prices. But, then, the bears, who have all the chances and the natural laws of trade besides the action of Congress in their favor, have sold short to so enormous an extent—full forty millions, it is said—that the bulls have every inducement to hold on to the last. There must inevitably be some smashing and breaking before long somewhere. In the meanwhile there is a very uneasy feeling among the stock-houses in Broad Street, and a general apprehension that something is going to happen to the powerful cliques by whose operations the market has been so long sustained. A break in either of the cliqued stocks would, for the moment, produce tremendous disasters; and it is the very knowledge that this break may at any moment occur which prevents it from taking place. It may be precipitated at any moment by a break in the Gold Room.

On Monday U. S. bonds rose to a higher point than they have yet reached, stimulated by the passage on Saturday of the bill prohibiting any more sales of gold-bearing bonds, by the House of Representatives. If the bill should pass the Senate, as it probably will, all classes of our gold-bearing securities must rise a good deal higher. It is not to be wondered at that there should be so great an anxiety to buy on Monday. Our speculators in U. S. securities lose sight of a very important fact, viz., while our own bonds are dealt in and freely sold at all the great financial centers of the world, along with other national securities, in our own markets they are the only Government securities dealt in. Wherever a difficulty occurs in any foreign country which diminishes the value of the national securities our own bonds at once come into demand for investment.

The railway speculation was dull throughout the week, and the announcement of the directors of New York Central that the 4 per cent. dividend which was to be paid on the 20th inst. would not be paid until the 15th of March caused a decline of 1 per cent. on that stock. The reason for the delay is that more time was required to prepare the 80 per cent. certificates on the stock which had been enjoined by Judge Ingraham. Although nothing has been published by the company in relation to the payment of interest on the certificates, no doubt appears to be entertained by the well-informed friends of the road, that the whole interest will be paid to the holders of the scrip in some shape or other.

Erie hangs fire. There is no way of buying and selling it. It is an outlaw in all the boards; and, until the directors comply with the requirements of the Stock Exchange, and make a public registry of the amount of shares in existence, it will have to stay out in the cold. The attempt to organize an Independent Stock Board, expressly to give Erie a chance of being dealt in, does not look very promisingly at present.

Pacific Mail has been badly hammered; but it rose to 114 on Monday, and is said to be a good purchase at that figure.

The Northwest stocks are very firm, but they do not rise to the points to which they might easily be put. The controlling holder of Northwest is influenced by very prudential motives. He anticipated a break in the market, and he sagaciously wants that the Northwest should be kept at a point from which it will not be likely to fall when the break comes. It will then be in a good position for an upward turn. The payment of the next 5 per cent. dividend will easily place both Preferred and Common above par.

Mariposa Preferred was in active demand on Thursday, and rose to 29. The reports of the operations of the company are of a highly encouraging character.

Harlem Railroad has some very strong supporters. It rose to 138 on Monday, two per cent. above Hudson River.

The official recapitulation of gold and silver coin sold on account of the United States from January, 1863, to January 9, 1869, shows $238,500,000. The largest sales were in 1864—namely, near $59,000,000 at New-York. In 1868, over $39,000,000 were sold at New-York and St. Louis. The taxes on the entire amount sold in those years were $148,000; commissions, $263,000; premiums, $108,222,000; net receipts, about $346,500,000.

DRY GOODS.

The trade in domestic cottons during the past week has not been remarkably active; but prices have continued very firm, with an upward tendency, and the tone of the market is decidedly encouraging to manufacturers and the holders of large stocks. There is no prospect of an immediate decline of price in the raw material, and the known bare condition of the country makes it certain that a large and active demand must take place as soon as purchasers commence making up their stock. The next year's product of cotton will be pretty sure to exceed that of 1868 by at least one-third; for the high prices have not only stimulated planters, but have put them in funds, so that they are enabled to spend more money at the North for guano and other fertilizers than have ever been done before. But the prospect of next year's cotton crop will not affect the prices of cotton fabrics this season.

In unbleached shirtings and sheetings there has been but little doing, but prices of standard makes have advanced about half a cent a yard, without causing any show of a disposition to effect sales by the manufacturers' agents. The stock in first hands is so limited that any great purchases would be pretty sure to lead to a further advance in all descriptions of brown goods. Bleached shirtings and sheetings of the finer qualities have not been in so great demand as has been the case with medium and lower grades. The finer qualities of shirtings are wanted chiefly by the shirt-makers. The market has been comparatively quiet, but prices are firmer.

Drills are in moderate request for city trade, but the export has fallen off sensibly since the rise in prices, which are fully maintained.

Cotton flannels are out of season, and the demand is small; but it would be difficult to buy largely without causing an advance.

Cotton bags sell readily at quotations, but chiefly for the better qualities, which are relatively cheaper than the inferior kinds.

Corset jeans are in fair demand. Indian Orchard, colored and white, sell at 13 cents.

Apron-checks are in fair demand and good supply, without change of rates.

Stripes and ticks sell freely, but are without marked change of price. As the season advances, however, a rise may reasonably be anticipated to correspond with the rest of the market for cotton fabrics.

Printing-cloths have been inactive through the week, and prices continue unsettled. The stock in first hands is considered large, and the tendency of the market rather favors the buyer.

The activity in prints has somewhat abated, notwithstanding the very attractive styles of the new goods put upon the market. Perhaps the rise at the commencement of the season was a little too rapid; but, at the pause, there appears to be no chance of a decline. Sprague's new fancies sell at 14½ cents, with the regular discount of one per cent.

Ginghams are in moderate request, without change of prices.

Rolled jaconets and cambrics are selling steadily at firm prices. Colored cambrics are in good demand from the clothing houses.

In muslin de laines there is but little doing, the season not being yet sufficiently advanced for light colors.

Fancy cassimeres are in rather better demand, but principally for the superior qualities. The lower grades are not in request. The market is very well supplied with the various makes.

Satinets are inactive. Prices remain steady.

The demand for Kentucky jeans is somewhat better, and sales are more easily effected; but without any sensible influence on prices, which remain low.

The importations of European fabrics for the past week have been very large, as the entries at the custom-house show; but it is rather early in the season for an active trade in foreign goods. No important offerings have yet been made in the auction-rooms, and the large jobbing-houses display a good deal of caution in making their selections. The market is well-stocked with dress-goods, and there need be no haste in buying. Both importers and jobbers are naturally waiting to see how the great contest between the bulls and bears in the Gold Room is going to be decided before they commence operations.

GENERAL MARKET REPORT.

A Table of Quotations will be found in another column.]

BREADSTUFFS—The firm feeling that characterized our market for Western and State Flour during the early part of last week has since been more apparent, though only of a few days' duration. The aggregate of business has been quite large, the trade having purchased Medium brands quite freely, and with a marked reduction in the stock of these holders have had the advantage up to Saturday, when the market became heavy, and a decline was submitted to. Ordinary No. 2 and Supers, however, have been well sustained. The exports for the week have been 14,327 barrels, including 4,669 to Europe, 730 to British Provinces, and 8,928 to South America, West Indies, etc. At the close there has been a fair business, but no lower prices for all grades except No. 2 and Superfine, these continue in small supply and wanted by the trade and exporters. Canadian Flour continues dull, and in the absence of sales prices are nominal. California Flour has been in more active demand at full prices, but with more liberal offerings; at the close the market is heavy and easier. Southern Flour too has been in improved demand but at lower and irregular prices, especially the medium grades, and at the close all brands have a downward tendency with a good demand at the concession. Rye Flour has met with steady fair demand, at about previous prices; closing fair, with a good demand. Corn Meal has been only in moderate demand, but prices are much the same. Buckwheat Flour has declined, and has been rather dull. In Wheat we have to note a variable and somewhat unsettled market; the trade however has been fair, the demand being chiefly from millers, though shippers have operated to some extent; in prices we note an advance, this is owing principally to the favorable news from Europe, an advance in gold, and a further decline in the rate of freight; the above remarks apply to all grades of Spring and Red Winter Wheats, which have indeed been held with considerable confidence. Amber Winter Wheats too have been in request, at improved prices. White California Wheats have arrived more liberally, and have not changed, the trade generally being dull. The exports for the week have been 134,926 bushels, against 32,634 bushels this date last year. At the close Spring Wheats are lower, though fairly active, and Winters are dull and nominal. Barley has been in very good demand, and has been held with much confidence owing to the reduced stock and light importations of Foreign. At the close the market is steady. Barley Malt has been in fair demand and has ruled steady. Rye has been moderately active, prices have declined, and close nominal. Oats have fluctuated and have been in more active demand. The increase in the consumption has been considerable, and we notice a considerable reduction in the stock. At the close the market is lower and fairly active at the concession. Corn, too, has fluctuated almost daily, but has been quite active, the demand being in part speculative, though chiefly for the home and Eastern trade. The exports for the week are 36,301 bushels, against 286,990 for the corresponding week last year. At the close the offerings are more liberal; and, with only a limited inquiry, prices are lower and have a downward tendency.

COTTON.—The market has been a variable one; and, though pretty active, the aggregate of business foots up smaller than last week, and at figures averaging rather lower than previously quoted. Over-estimates of sales and under-estimates of supplies in Liverpool have had rather a depressing effect, and caused some of the numerous small speculators to unload, and, as a consequence accept lower figures. The majority of holders, however, appear confident, and at no time has there been any undue pressure to realize. Exporters and speculators have been the principal operators, spinners still finding the goods market in too uncertain a condition to induce purchases beyond immediate necessities. Receipts at the ports have been small and many are predicting a gradual falling off from this time forward. Our market closes dull and heavy under unfavorable foreign news at 29¾ cts. for Middling Uplands to 30 @30¼ cts. for do. New Orleans and Texas.

PROVISIONS.—The whole market for hog products has undergone considerable depression during the past week, and, with one or two exceptions, values are reduced. Holders, in the majority of cases, however, have refrained from pressing goods, and consider the ruling state of affairs as nearly the natural reaction after the liberal speculative movement recently under way, and it is now generally conceded that low-priced hog meats cannot be expected, until very late in the season, at least. The operations at the moment are principally of a speculative nature, though shippers are "looking round" to some extent, and a fair amount changes hands of jobbers. New Mess Pork sold at full figures early in the week: but, lots held on investment showing a good margin for profit, holders have brought it advisable to realize, and, the result was a working off in value of $1 50 per barrel from highest point—viz., $34. The stock is small, and receives so few additions that many dealers think there will not be enough by many thousand barrels to meet all the short contracts maturing at the close of this and during the coming month. Old Mess has been quiet, but pretty firmly held. Prime Mess is a trifle easier and neglected. Other cuts nominal. At the close the market is quiet but firm at $32@32 12½ for Old Mess, $32 50@32 62½ for New Mess; $29 50@29 75 for Western Prime Mess, and $30 50@31 25 for City do. For future delivery there has been a good trade, partly from investment but largely in settling contracts, the closing rates standing at $32 50 for March and $32 75 for April, all sellers' option. Beef sells only to the jobbing trade, and, unless of very fine quality, scarcely reaches previous rates. We quote at $12@$17 for Plain Mess, and $13@19 for Extra Mess. Tierce Beef is dull and nominal at $27@$30 for Prime Mess, and $31@$34 for India Mess. Beef Hams are quiet but steady at $30@34. Cut Meats have been dull and are easier, closing at 13¾@14 cts. for Shoulders, and 17½@18 cts. for Hams in pickle. Bacon is offered quite freely, but buyers refuse to operate, and Cumberlands can now be bought at 15½ cts., Short Rib 16½ cts. Lard has been dull, receipts more liberal, and with several parcels brought back from the Continent of Europe, prices have given way materially. The close is a trifle more steady at 18¾@19 cts. for No. 1; 19@19¾ cts. for City; 19¾@19¾ cts. for Steam; and 19¾@20 cts. for Kettle Rendered. The latest transactions for future delivery were at 19¾ cts., for April.

SUGARS.—Raw Sugars have undergone great excitement during the past week consequent upon the very discouraging advices from Cuba, and prices show a heavy advance. The demand has been from refiners and speculators, and the stock in importers' hands is reduced to low aggregate. It is difficult now to find any desirable stock offering, and holders seem perfectly satisfied that a still higher range of values is certain. At the close the market is quiet for want of stock, and prices buoyant at 12¾@13½ cts. for fair to good Refining. Other grades uncertain. Refined, if possible, have shown more excitement then Raws, and few refiners will name a price twelve hours ahead. The latest sales of Powdered Granulated and Crushed were at 18¾@19¾ cts.

NEW YORK CATTLE MARKET.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, FEB. 16, 1869.

[Reported Expressly for The Independent.]

PRICES OF BEEF CATTLE AT THE PRINCIPAL MARKET PLACES.

	This week.	Last week.
Extra	16¾@17	17@17¼
First quality	16 @16¾	16¾@17
Second quality	13 @15	13¾@15¾
Third quality	11 @12¾	11½@13
Inferior	10 @11	10 @11
Average of all sales about	— @14¾	— @14¾

GENERAL QUOTATIONS.

COWS AND CALVES.

	This week.	Last week.
Choice	$90@100	$90@100
Good	75@85	75@85
Fair	60@ 70	60@ 70
Inferior and Common	30@ 55	30@ 55

VEAL CALVES.

	This week.	Last week.
Extra and Choice	12¾@13	12¾@13
Good	11¾@12	11¾@12
Common	11 @11¾	11 @11¾
Inferior	10 @10¾	10 @10¾

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

	This week.	Last week.
Choice per lb.	8¾@ 9	8¾@ 9
Extra "	7 @ 8	7 @ 8
Good "	6½@ 6¾	6½@ 6¾
Fair "	5¾@ 6	5¾@ 6
Common "	5 @ 5¾	5 @ 5¾

SWINE.

	Live, per lb.	Dressed, per lb.
Corn fed, prime to choice	11¾@11¾	15¾@15
Corn-fed, common to good	11¾@11¾	13¾@14

GENERAL REMARKS.

There has been a falling off in the receipts of *Beeves* the past week; still, the supply has been more than equal to the demand, in consequence of the falling off in the consumption, owing to this being the Lenten season. Trade generally has been dull, and a decline in prices of ¼@½ ct. per lb. has been submitted to; the average quality of stock offering has been fair. For Milch Cows and Calves there has been no improvement in the demand; the supply has increased and the market has been dull and depressed. The supply of Sheep and Lambs shows a falling off. Salesmen in consequence have tried very hard to work up prices, but at the close were well satisfied in obtaining last week's rates. Swine have arrived more freely, prices have declined and have been irregular.

POSTSCRIPT.

LATEST DRY GOODS QUOTATIONS.

IMPORTANT TO EVERY MERCHANT IN THE UNITED STATES.

MONDAY EVENING, Feb. 16, 1869.

The following are the wholesale net cash prices of all the leading styles of Domestic Dry Goods sold in the New York market. It is confidently believed that this weekly information, specially reported to The Independent, (and more precisely than to any other newspaper in the city), is to every dry goods merchant, ten times the subscription price of the paper

PRINTS.

Merrimack, W.	13½	Amoskeag	13
Merrimack, D.	14½	Lowell	11½
Cocheco, L.	14	Wamsutta	16½
Sprague	13½@13½	Victory	12
Pacific	13½	Waurgan	13½
American	13½	Arnold	11½
Hamilton	13½	Richmond	13½@14
Allens	13½	Richmond	13½
Manchester	13½	Mourning	13
Freemans	11½	Lancaster	13
Nassau	13	Oriental	18

GINGHAMS.

Lancaster	17	Hartford	13½
Berkshire	15	Rosnoke	12½
Caledonia	15	Glasgow	16

BROWN SHEETINGS.

Amoskeag, A	17	Pocasset	16
Lawrence, C	16½	"	14
" F	15½	Pepperell	16
" G	13½	" B	15
" H	13½	" N	13
Pacific, Extra	16½	" O	15
" H	16½	" P	12½
" L	14½	" R	10½
Atlantic, A	17	" T	9½
" H	16½	Boot, S	14½
" O	14½	" O	13
" V	14½	" H	11½
" D	13½	Appleton, A	16
Superior, IXL	15	Laconia, H	16
Shawmut, C	15½	" O	14½
Agawam, F	13½	" B	14
Stark, A	16½	" E	13
Massachusetts	14½	Lyman, F	14
" BB	14½	" C	14
" D	13½	" G	13
Indian Head, A	17	Utica	15
" E	14½	Tremont, A	15
Exeter, A	14	Ingnar Orchard, A	15
" E	13	" E	14
Medford	14½	" B	13
Augusta	15½	" W	12
" E	13½	Great Falls, H	15½
Gilboa	13	" J	14½
Pittsfield, A	13	" E	13
Kennebec, A	10½	" S	13
Everett, A	15	Cabot, A	14½
Shannon	14	" E	13½
Bedford, R	10½	Dwight, A	12½
Conesto Co. E	10	" B	11½

BLEACHED MUSLINS.

New York Mills	27½	Dwight	18
Wamsutta	30	Ballou & Son	15
"	35	"	13½
Pocasset	22½	Lonsdale	16
Wilkinsville	15	" Cambric	16
Bates	30	Hill	14
White Rock	18	"	12
Forestdale	17	Bartlett	14
Indian River, A	13½	" Extra	17
" X	15	" B-inch	16
Attawaugan, X	18½	James Sim's Mills, 44	16½
" XX	15½	38-inch	14½

Great Falls, J	9-inch		13½
"	8		12½
"	D		11½
"	C		10½
Red Bank	G		11
Waltham	44-inch		15½
"	40 "		14½
"	36 "		13½
"	30 "		12½
Franklin M'f'g Co	44		15½
Bay Mills	44		10
Pulaski	44		11
Green, G	44		9
Amoskeag, A	44		16½
" Z	7-8		13½
Whitesville	44		16½
"	36		13½

DENIMS.

Amoskeag	31	Otis Company, CC	21
York	21	" BB	21
Blue Hill	15	" AA	27½
Northfield	15½	Warren Brown	18½
Oakland	20	Lewiston, Brown	20½
Working Man's	23¼	Columbian	30
Union	18¾		

STRIPED SHIRTINGS.

Amoskeag	22½	Whittenton, A	20
York	22½	" BB	17
Uncasville	15½@16½	" C	15
American	14@15	Eagle	14
Hamilton	13½	Thornbike	30
Everett	13@14		

TICKS.

York, 30-inch	26	Thorndike, A	18
York, 32-inch	28	Methuen, AA	18
Amoskeag, A, C, A	25	Hamilton, Regular	26
" B	20	Wilson Brook	30
" D	25	Everett	21
" E	23	Belvidere	20
" D	20	Hampden, CC	30
Conestoco 4-4	26	Pearl River	31
" Extra	17½	Pittsfield	30
Swift River	17¼		

CORSET JEANS.

Amoskeag	15	Pepperell	18
Lacoota	15½	Bates	12½
Naumkeag Sattens	17½	Indian Orchard	14
New Market	14	Everett	15

BROWN DRILLS.

Amoskeag	15½	Appleton	17
Pemberet	17½	Tremont	17
Lacoma	17	Winthrop	15
Stark, A	17		

DELAINES.

Pacific	20	Lewiston	20
Hamilton	20	Spragues	19
Manchester	20	Armures	21

CANTON FLANNELS.

Hamilton	20	Ellerton	17½
Lacoma	18	" P	25
Pemberton, C	16½	Amoskeag	25
" A	27½	Nashua	16½

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IN GOLD COIN,

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